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THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

ONTARIO'S BEST
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

CIRCULATION 3,500 - 4,999
2003 OCNA AWARDS

Tuesday, December 23, 2003
Vol. 121 No. 1
\$1 including GST

www.haliburtonecho.on.ca
email: echo@halhinet.on.ca

Forest owners give trails a reprieve

MATTHEW WALLS

Staff Reporter

Most snowmobile and cross-country ski trails will be open for the holidays, following the recommendation by the Haliburton Forestry Association to postpone any possible forest closures until January 12, 2004.

The association decided, after what its members called a lengthy and hot debate at a meeting last Monday, to give the new Liberal government until January 12 to change the current tax formula for managed forests, which owners claim makes the cost of managing forests prohibitive.

The Ministries of Finance and Natural Resources, which met for the first time on December 17 to discuss the tax issue, have scheduled a January 8 meeting, which HFA hopes will end with a solution.

"We wanted to be fair," said Peter Schleifenbaum, HFA's managing director. "It's a new Liberal government."

Schleifenbaum, who runs the Haliburton Forest and Wolf Centre, a managed forest of 60,000 acres, added that HFA's decision was also made in view that the Christmas season is approaching.

Managed forests were switched to market assessment this year, after having been assessed as farmland for the past several years. Managed forest owners, however, are still taxed at only one-quarter of the residential rate, as they have

See **Trails** page 6



DARREN LUM/Echo

Look at me

A young student at Stuart Baker Elementary School sneaks a look

at the audience to see if he can see his parents in the crowd at the annual Christmas concert last week. There are school concert photos throughout this week's Echo.

Bill Davis is new warden

JERRY GROZELLE

Staff Reporter

Dysart Deputy-Reeve Bill Davis will serve as warden of Haliburton County for the next year. Davis was acclaimed to the position at a special ceremony at the county council chambers on Tuesday, December 16.

Past Warden Ross Rigney, who's reeve of Minden Hills, nominated Davis and noted that Davis holds the distinction of being the longest serving deputy reeve in Dysart history. With the exception of one term when he did not run because he had taken a job with the Ministry of Health, Davis has been the deputy-reeve of Dysart since 1985.

"He is only the second deputy-reeve to hold the position of Warden of Haliburton County," Rigney said.

Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey, also a past warden, said he has worked on council with Davis for 15 years. "I've had the pleasure of working with Bill for longer than most marriages last these days," Fearrey quipped. "There are four things a man goes through in his life. He starts off believing in Santa Claus. Then he disbelieves in Santa Claus. Then he is Santa Claus and then he looks like Santa Claus. Comparing all that to Bill, this is the period in his life where he is going to be Santa Claus."

"I've come to respect that

Bill's interest is in the interest of people in general and in the interest of this County."

Haliburton County CAO Gary King called for further nominations and since there were none, the nominations were closed and Davis was acclaimed as warden.

Haliburton-Victoria-Brock MP John O'Reilly was on hand to congratulate Davis and present him with a portrait of the Queen and a Canadian flag.

MPP Laurie Scott was unable to attend, but she sent a congratulatory message.

Prior to the nominations Reverend Christopher Greaves asked the blessing.

"Good government is almost

See **As warden** page 4

Henwood loses more than he gains in recount

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

Bob Nichol will remain Dysart's Ward 1 councillor with an even greater margin after last week's recount.

Jim Henwood, who ran in Ward 1, requested the recount because of the information he received from scrutineers about human errors. The recount did indeed turn up different numbers but not in his favour.

The original ballot count for Ward 1 was 359 votes for Henwood, 365 votes for Nichol and 296 votes for Chester Howse. The new count is 346

See **Nichol** page 4

FEATURE



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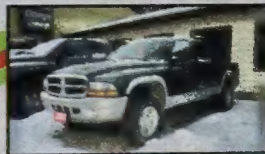
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Dysart staff retires

here, there & everywhere
news and events worth noting

THE SHY DARLENE MADILL will be retiring as Dysart et al's deputy-clerk this Christmas after working with the municipality for 34 years. Madill did not want to see a big fuss made about it, but the staff at Dysart did and called the *Echo* to say how much they were going to miss her. Madill started working for the municipality directly after graduating from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School and over the years worked in several functions before reaching her current position. Brooke Irvine and Fay Brown will be taking over some of her duties in the New Year. Best wishes also go out to Karl Upton and Keith Robertson who are also retiring from Dysart and have served the community well for many years.

Delta Pinestone Resort will offer complimentary accommodation this holiday season to out-of-town families visiting hospitalized relatives. The Home for the Holidays program will offer these rooms in conjunction with the Minden and Haliburton hospitals between December 15 and January 4. The program was launched by Delta Cares in 1990 and is a wonderful opportunity to help those in need by offering available rooms, says Scott de Savoye, general manager at the Delta Pinestone. Those in need of this service can apply for rooms through the two local hospitals.

Due to a mistake in the Season's Greetings parishioners of St. Georges Anglican Church in Haliburton should note there is no church service on December 31.



SHERYL LOUCKS/Echo

68 years together

David Jess holds the hand of his wife of 68 years, Jessie, at Extendicare as the couple prepare to celebrate their wedding anniversary. They were actually married on November 29 in Nova Scotia. Jessie confided in Extendicare staff that she spied David in church when she was 14 and thought he was a good looking fellow and it would appear she hasn't changed her mind.

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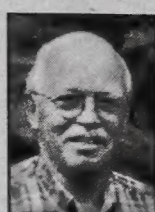
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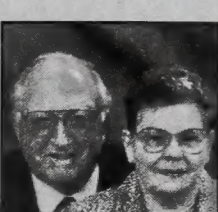
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Christmas at JDHES

Students at J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School filled the gym on Friday to get in the Christmas spirit before their two-week break. Lorry Brandon's French class put on a fun-loving play about Cendrillon and her evil stepsisters while Peggy Flowers' Grade 4/5 French Immersion class sang two songs. Of course, Dale McConnell's skit about The Great Robbery had to include a square dance. There were individual presentations as well as performances by Lorie Reddering's band and choir.

Photos by MARTHA PERKINS



Chris Porter's tuba give a big sound to the Grade 8 band.



Caitlin Lilly had a big hair day along with Grade 8 classmate Catherine Young in the Great Robbery.



Janice Kitely played Jingle Bells.



Jasmin Purnell had a nose so bright.



The choir had fun with songs.



Cinderella was en francais.

As warden, Davis takes the long view

from page 1

invisible," he said. "Just like a good Christian witness is almost invisible. If the community is functioning well, if the community is healthy, it doesn't need a lot of government."

"Back in 1985, when I first got involved in municipal politics, I had no idea that I would still be here in 2004, let alone be the Warden of Haliburton County," Davis said. "The position of warden is, without a doubt, a great honour and a privilege, and I can assure the people of Haliburton County that I will uphold the honour and integrity of this office."

Davis noted that he has heard wardens-elect in the past outline in their speeches what they hoped to achieve in their terms of office, "only to learn that a year passes very quickly and the bureaucracy moves so slowly that many objectives and goals aren't realized during their tour of duty."

He has decided to take a different approach.

"What I am going to outline for you is a work in progress which includes much unfinished business over the past three years," Davis said. "During 2003, the county continued to work on a number of significant projects that have had an implementation time frame extending over several years."

Specifically, he cited the 911 emergency call answering system, Connect Ontario, official plans at municipality and county levels and the updating of the county strategic plan.

"During 2004, the county should realize the completion of certain projects and be able to move forward to the next stages on others," he said. "With a concentrated effort to finalize 911 signage installation as well as the completion of the 911 data base that is required to present to Bell Canada, it is expected that 911 will be operational before the end of the summer of 2004. This will require council consideration at both the township and county levels for the process to

be put in place for the ongoing maintenance of the 911 system."

Davis pointed out that the pending approval of the lower and upper tier official plans will mean that the county will receive delegated approval authority from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. "Although the workload is not expected to be significant at the outset, the county will soon become the approval authority for subdivision applications as well as official plan amendments processed by the townships."

Davis agrees that high-speed communications are essential to the prosperity of the county. "The county has worked hard over the past two years to develop the business case necessary to convince senior levels of government to invest in a high-speed telecommunications network for Haliburton County. The county and stakeholder partners such as Trillium Lakelands District School Board and Sir Sandford Fleming College will need to continue to work diligently to realize improvements to our communications capabilities to ensure that our residents and business community have the same opportunities that are available in larger centres," Davis said.

He said the county will be moving forward to address some of the barriers to accessibility identified in the recently completed Accessibility Plan. "With the assistance of the committee, we will be identifying additional areas where improvements can be made," Davis said.

The library board is nearing completion of a strategic plan and Davis said county council will need to secure input from the townships and move toward implementing some efficiencies and improvements to the overall library system for the benefit of all ratepayers.

"Good decisions are arrived at through consensus," Davis said. "Consensus is the result of teamwork. Ladies and gentlemen, the tasks are at hand and the team around this table is more than ready to tackle these issues."



JERRY GROZELLE/Echo

The past warden, Minden Hills Reeve Ross Rigney, hands the chain of office to Dysart Deputy-reeve Bill Davis at the warden's inaugural last Tuesday night.

Nichol keeps the lead in recount

from page 1

votes for Henwood, 295 votes for Howse and 367 votes for Nichol.

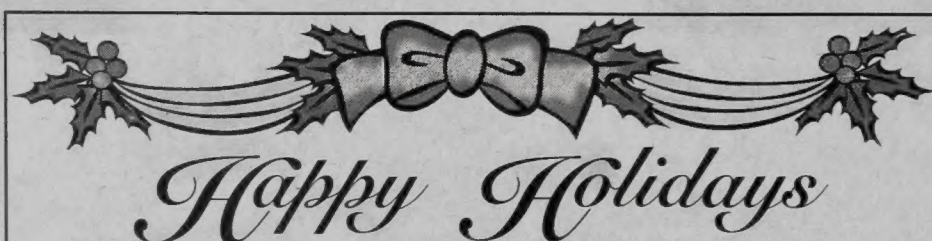
"I wasn't out to embarrass anyone and didn't really expect the results to change too much. But it is kind of scary the different numbers," says Henwood.

He qualified that he is satisfied with the count and that staff have done their best to make the count legitimate at the municipal office. He stayed for the entire recount and says some ballots were discarded because a mark wasn't clear; on one ballot a mark had been erased and then another mark put somewhere else. He also cited incidences of confusion during the election of whether a check

mark clearly indicating a candidate would be accepted because it was not an X.

He estimates that about one per cent of the ballots cast in Ward 1 were rejected or counted differently in the recount.

CAO Tammy McKelvey said that provincial legislation dictates that she can not officially declare Nichol the winner until 16 days after the recount but he is legally to fulfill the duties of councillor in that period. The waiting period is to give the other contenders the opportunity to apply for a judicial recount in the presence of a judge. Henwood says he has no intention of pursuing the issue and is content with the count.



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St. John's, Irondale	9:30 am	Prayer & Praise Communion
St. James', Kinmount	11:15 am	Sung Family Eucharist

Wednesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

St. Paul's, Minden	7:00 pm	Family Holy Communion
	11:00 pm	Midnight Eucharist & Carols
St. John's, Irondale	7:00 pm	Family Christmas Service
St. James', Kinmount	9:00 pm	Family Christmas Communion

Thursday, December 25 - Christmas Day

St. Peter's, Maple Lake	10:00 am	Family Christmas Communion
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County says recreation a municipal role

JERRY GROZELLE

Staff Reporter

A request from Family Services of Haliburton County for funding for children's recreational services raised a discussion that resulted in a recorded vote.

The debate centered on which level of local government should fund children's recreation programs.

Algonquin Highlands Reeve Eleanor Harrison argued that it should be a county responsibility. "Our council believes that it should be dealt with at this [the county] table," she said. "Family Services is strongly associated with the county. Family services have always been dealt with at the county level."

Not everyone agreed. Keith Tallman and Bill Howe, reeve and deputy-reeve of Highlands East, voiced the opinion that the municipalities should have a say. "We should make our own choices," Howe said.

"The program is valuable," Haliburton County CAO Gary King interjected. "It's a matter of who does what. It's not a reflection on the importance of the program."

Minden Hills Deputy-Reeve Jim McMahon noted that Family Services delivers a number of programs and he felt that children's recreation program was no different. "It should fall

under the Family Services budget and let them decide where they spend the money," McMahon said.

"We're being asked to fund recreation and it's outside the mandate," said Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey.

A resolution was moved stating: "Be it resolved that the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council advise Haliburton County Family Services that the county financial contribution towards Children's Recreational Services in 2004 and subsequent years will be limited to that portion of program and administration costs that focus on making programs accessible based on financial need of participants, with such funding to flow through the Social Alliance and funding programs such as the National Child Benefit or others, and further that the funding required for making recreation programs available (i.e. developing and introducing new recreation programs for children to participate in) shall be considered the responsibility of, and at the discretion of each local Council."

Fearrey called for a recorded vote. Harrison and Tom Gardner of Algonquin Highlands recorded nay votes, while the other six members of county council voted in favour. The motion was passed.



DARREN LUM/ECHO

Spreading the Christmas cheer

Students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School did their own version of A Christmas Carol, at left, to remind everyone that if you want others to be good to you you'd better start being good to others. The annual assembly also included a dance to contemporary music, above, with each performer trying to outdo the other. The skits were all written by the students.

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Trails may still be in jeopardy

from page 1

since the Tory government instituted the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program in 1998.

While the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) insists the new assessment formula is fair, local managed forest owners, many of them represented by HFA, have maintained the new assessment no longer provides an incentive for forest stewardship.

The province-wide representative of managed forest owners, the Ontario Forest Association (OFA), agrees. The association has vigorously lobbied the Ministries of Finance and the MNR, and was largely responsible for having the two ministries meet last Wednesday.

Carla Grant, the association's Executive Director, left the meeting optimistically. The new Ministry of Finance, she said, is "very willing to talk to us, which wasn't the case in the past."

According to Grant, the Ministry now shares the association's view that MPAC's tax assessment statistics, released to municipalities and landowners in mid-November, are incorrect. A previous story in *The Echo* on managed forests quoted statistics from MPAC detailing the property assessments for managed forests in Dysart et. al. Township, which compared assessments from 2001 to 2003.

Not having seen these figures, Grant said she could not comment on their veracity. However, she said that the statistics MPAC showed OFA at a meeting in late November "masked the true hap-

penings." Half of the properties registered as managed forests, she said, are mixed use (meaning properties with a residence and a forest), and comparing 2003 and 2001 assessments of these properties is misleading.

Most of Grant's information has come from landowners, some of whom have told her of changes for 'intact' managed forests going from "a couple of thousand dollars to \$30,000 to \$40,000." Grant said the association and the Ministry of Finance would like to see year-by-year statistics on managed forests.

"There has been no real analysis done of the impact of the change," Grant said.

Grant believes the two ministries should have the proper figures ready by the January 8 meeting, at which time the association hopes the government will show at least a commitment to co-operate, if not a final decision.

The HFA, meanwhile, though it has momentarily relented by postponing its decision, has also warned the Ontario Forestry Association in a letter dated December 16, 2003, that this postponement is not "a sign of wavering."

"Unless managed forests are treated identically to farm lands and confirmation of this is received on or before January 12th, 2004, trails in the Haliburton area as well as across central Ontario will be closed with dramatic consequences for the outdoor recreation and tourism sectors. Forest owners are aware of the dire consequences this will have for rural communities, however, will direct any responsibility to the Ministry of Finance

and especially MPAC, whose actions have created the present situation."

While the postponement is good news for the tourism industry and winter recreationists, not all local managed forest owners are following HFA's recommendation.

Lee Blair has decided to close his 1,500-acre managed forest, forcing resorts such as Wigamog Inn and Willow Beach Cottages to scramble for alternatives.

Normally, the resorts have 35 km of cross-country trails accessible from their resorts. Blair's closure cuts their trails in half, leaving them with two island circuits: 6 km at the resorts and 15 km at Glebe Park.

The two inns are considering running a shuttle on weekends to transport skiers to the various ski trails, said Don Gage, owner of Willow Beach Cottages. Moosewoods (22 km of trails), the Frost Center (24 km), a new trail at Twin Lakes Resort (6 km) and Wanakita (16 km) will all be open for skiing.

Gage added that the resorts will have a 2 km winter hiking and snowshoeing trail between Wigamog and Delta Pinestone Resort. Pinestone will also open a small cross-country ski loop on the golf course.

While these measures will alleviate the kilometers lost to the closure of Blair's property, HFA's impending decision still casts a shadow over the rest of the winter tourism season.

The resort owners, Gage said, do not hold out much hope things will improve come January 12.

County works the bugs out of new light in Haliburton

JERRY GROZELLE

Staff Reporter

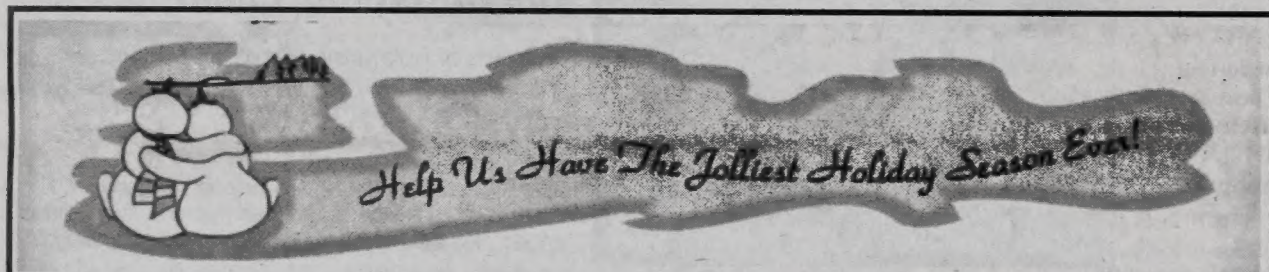
In anticipation of problems with the traffic light on County Road 121 at the corner of County Road 1 in Haliburton (near the high school), the county roads department is looking into ways of better controlling the activation of the lights.

The signal lights are controlled by a loop in the pavement that responds to vehicles as they drive over the sensors. The problem is that when the roads are snow-covered, vehicles may not drive over the sensors to activate the lights.

Doug Ray, manager of operations, told county council last Wednesday that he is exploring other ways to ensure the lights are activated, including an optical sensor (electronic eye).

CAO Gary King suggested looking into the possibility of getting switches for emergency vehicles to change the lights like the ones used by fire trucks and ambulances in larger centres.

The roads department is widening County Road 1 at the junction of 121 to give emergency vehicles a little more room to manoeuvre.



Help Us Have The Jolliest Holiday Season Ever!

For the sixth year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorates trees located in the front lobbies of the Health Care Facilities with tags sponsored by gifts from our generous supporters. To date this campaign has raised **\$36,211.00**. The proceeds will assist the Foundation to pay off the \$1,430,000 capital loan on the Health Care Facilities.

Thank you to the following generous businesses groups and individuals:

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These are the board members of the new Haliburton Tourism association. From left are director Valerie Kulla, secretary/treasurer Bruce McClennan, director Andrea Hagarty, vice-president Bill Young, director Judy Churchward, director Gary Schultz and president Scott de Savoye.

SHERYL LOUCKS/ECHO



Haliburton Tourism gets ready to spread the word

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

Heads in beds is the motto for the new Haliburton Tourism association as well as its reason for existence.

Bill Young, Wigamog Inn Resort managing director, says that after this year's challenges of West Nile, SARS and the war with Iraq, the timing was right to develop a new organization with the primary purpose of promoting in-bound tourism. He has taken on the role of vice-president of Haliburton Tourism while maintaining his position of secretary/treasurer of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce. He says it is not a conflict of interest and the two organizations will complement each other.

"You look at larger cities like Burlington that are home to five organizations that work together, an economic devel-

opment office, the city, tourism organizations and a chamber. We need a distinct organization to promote tourism," says Young.

Delta Pinestone Resort general manager Scott de Savoye has been working at bringing the hotels, resorts and accommodation providers together to form the inaugural board and has taken on the role of president. He says awareness of the unique and memorable sights/activities in Haliburton County is lacking.

"There just isn't enough year-round visitation to the county. Haliburton has not been benefiting from increased domestic travel, in terms of gaining our fair share of the market," says Savoye. "The Pinestone has never run at 50 per cent occupancy since it began in 1976. We're a small group and we're only half full or less - that's a concern."

Statistics suggest that over 95 per cent

of visitors to Haliburton come from Ontario and of those visitors 68 per cent are here for leisure opportunities while the remaining are visiting family or here for business. Savoye says the community here does not want to become as overbuilt, congested or expensive as tourist destinations such as Niagara Falls but he says "we can do a better job of getting the word out in the marketplace that a visit to Haliburton offers tremendous value for limited travel dollars."

He strongly believes that the further afield that message gets the more the entire county will benefit.

He says that since the Chamber of Commerce represents a broader business interest the tourism message gets diluted whereas an organization made up of accommodation providers can provide more focused directed marketing.

There will be a membership drive and information forum early in the new year, but the board is still deciding on a date.



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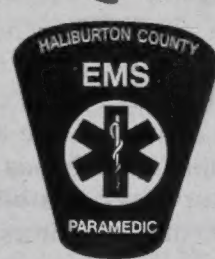
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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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"Wishing all a healthy and safe holiday season"

New kid on the block

In one of those delightful touches of irony, after years of being accused of representing only those businesses directly involved in the hospitality industry, the Chamber of Commerce now has such a diverse membership that hospitality providers in the county have launched their own little marketing agency, Haliburton Tourism. It's a welcome sign that both the Chamber and the local hospitality industry have matured and grown.

"Why does the Chamber of Commerce say it's representing business when really it's just a marketing body for resorts?"

echo

editorial

— martha perkins

That's a comment you heard quite often, especially among county politicians who each year are asked to financially support the Chamber's operations. They believed the Chamber was a special interest group and found proof in the list of board members. Most of the people who put their names forward to volunteer on the board were indeed directly involved with hospitality, and in particular, some years it seemed they all provided hospitality on the Highway 35 corridor.

In recent years, however, the Chamber has used some of the extra money the county has provided to hire people who did more outreach in the community, spreading the message that if every business from every area of the county stood under the Chamber's umbrella they could better face the storm of competition from outside the county – and not just competition for tourism dollars. Get people to visit here and you might also persuade them to buy a home or cottage here, and if they bought a home or cottage here they'd not only support local businesses but help create a few new ones. As well, make sure that local businesses knew what services were available in the county so that more local dollars would stay here, too.

As a result of these efforts, Chamber membership continues to grow and diversify – so much so that this new group was born.

Haliburton Tourism makes no pretense about who it represents. Its goal is to put "more heads in beds", or rather more heads on the pillow of a bed in a local resort. Rather than trying to attract visitors to a specific accommodation these resort owners and managers want to get visitors to the Highlands, period. The main task is to let people know Haliburton even exists.

"We can't compete with Toronto, Ottawa, Niagara Falls or even Muskoka in terms of tourist marketing dollars," says Delta Pinestone's Scott de Savoye in a press release. "Nor do we believe the greater community wants to become as overbuilt, congested or as expensive as some other similar tourist destinations."

"We do however believe that we can and should do a better job getting the word out in the marketplace that a visit to Haliburton offer a safe, unique and memorable experience while most importantly offering tremendous value for limited travel dollars. If that message gets out loud, clear and frequently, all citizens of our community will benefit."

After a summer of SARS, West Nile and rain, Haliburton Tourism is a welcome relief from pessimism and bad moods. The Chamber of Commerce has set the groundwork for finding ways to promote the Highlands and this new group has laced up its running shoes to set off in new directions. Good luck and happy trails.



Snow fun at Stuart Baker Elementary School

photo by DARREN LUM/Echo

Christmas etiquette for the outdoorsman

Outdoorsmen, as we all know, are of a generous nature. They are always wanting to give to loved ones, not just at Christmas, but throughout the year. Yet, we must recognize that not everyone shares our appreciation for the field and streams and some gifts can be misinterpreted. With that in mind, here's what I've learned about Christmas etiquette over the years.

Never give live bait. Sure live bait, especially if packaged in an old coffee tin, is a timeless, nostalgic gift. But, surprisingly, there are those who fail to appreciate the delicate glory of a bagful of leeches or the exquisite romance of a solitary 10-inch creek chub. Wives, trust me on this one, tend to get all emotional and will insist – and I do not think that is too strong a word – that you return the gift. That's because live bait is a very personal thing. Better to give a bait shop gift certificate and let her pick out her own.

Similarly if it's still wiggling, keep it to yourself. Yes, wild fish and game are delicious and welcome in many households but there's a right way to give it. Dumping a road-killed dead moose on someone's front lawn on Christmas morning, for instance, is considered uncouth south of Highway 7. Would it kill you to wrap it?

And let's be honest, they don't call it a mess of fish for no reason. True, most people love wall-eye or trout fillets but not when they've been under the tree since the twelfth day of Christmas. On the bright side, if this is the case, there's really no need to give that bait shop certificate, just an old coffee can and a card explaining that perch love maggots.

I've also learned never to give your partner

hooks, knives, guns, fry pans or anything else that can be turned against you in all the excitement of gift opening. This is especially true if you've just hung the hindquarter of a road killed deer from the Yuletide tree on Christmas morning so she could try out the new skinning knife you gave her. Ease her into it with, perhaps, the ever-popular brace of squirrels.

Here's a little tip for those of you with kids.

When it comes to telling bedtime stories on Christmas Eve, it's best not to editorialize too much on the classics. That's why it's not right to openly speculate on the Boone and Crockett trophy score of Rudolph's antlers (231 green by the way) nor is it right to talk about how Santa is in contravention of many fish and wildlife regulations for the harnessing of endangered flying reindeer.

One last thing: never give a radio shock collar for the dog. I once did, and it worked perfectly.

Within weeks that troublesome mutt learned manners, all of his obedience commands, became housebroken, adept at fetching, flushing and pointing, did not dig up the garden, stopped yapping at the neighbors and heeled when called. Essentially, it was ruined it as a hunting dog. Overall, my wife considers this the best gift I ever bought her and she enjoyed it thoroughly. And still does, unfortunately.

Anyhow, I've got to go! I'm being buzzed right now. Thank goodness the batteries are getting weak. That reminds me, does anyone have a spare turtle-neck? I know at least one outdoorsman who would love to see one under the tree this year. I've been good – ouch – honest!

Merry Christmas and season's greetings to you and your family.

the not so great



steve galea

outdoorsman

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HALIBURTON COUNTY

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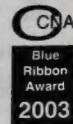
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Christmas connection

THE FIRE WAS COZY AND WARM, the afghan across her legs not really needed but kept because of its soft golden touch. Diana was taking a break, a breather, before dashing off to do some last minute Christmas baking with her daughter. Life is good, she thought, sipping on tea and stoking the cat curled up beside her.

Over the years, she had finally learned the importance of pausing in the midst of busyness, to not let the 'doing' get in the way of enjoying. Especially at Christmas. Getting up to poke at the logs, Diana thought about her three worst Christmases. There were no disasters, no horrific events to make these stand out in



sharon
lynch

down
our
road

her memory. In fact, the Christmas Eve her sister had opened her finger on the carving knife so that the two of them had rushed to the hospital's emergency department, that eve was not one of the three. At least they had been together, watching as the serious cases, the car accident victims and feverish babies, had come and gone.

The first bad Christmas had been Diana's first as a married woman. To be agreeable, she had went along with her new husband's idea

to open their few presents to each other on Christmas Eve. In no time the wrapping was removed, the meagre offerings inspected and the rest of the night stretched before them with an echo of sadness. The next day they were to visit and eat with their families, but that night was to have been special. Instead, it had been a giant disappointment - at least to Diana. It wasn't the gifts, though his to her had been amazingly impersonal, almost as though chosen by someone else. Rather it was that without something to do, an activity, they had no way to just be in each other's company. While doing what was expected, they simply were not connecting at an emotional level. It was no wonder the marriage did not last. Sitting on the new couch in their new apartment, Diana had found herself counting the hours until they would be at her family's for dinner. Then it would feel like Christmas.

The second unfortunate Christmas had been in a far away city years later. No more husband but also no more family. Recently arrived, Diana had not yet made any friends and her colleagues at work stayed in that professional corner of her life. Her family had sent her a huge box of gifts and homemade Christmas cake but its sight had only made her miss them all the more.

Christmas day that year was spent walking the warm and unfamiliar streets wondering if she had made a gigantic mistake. Eventually the misgivings were replaced with optimism and friendships and she had stayed on the other side of the country for quite a while. But she never forgot her first Christmas there.

The third Christmas had been an unpleasant surprise in that it had shown her how differently some people look at the festive season. Diana had been spending Christmas Day with her a second cousin and his family, a first time experience for all of them. They had brought presents to exchange and were going to watch the children open theirs. Diana had been looking forward to see the delight in the youngsters as they saw what Santa had brought them. She also hoped her cousin and his wife liked what she had picked out for them in their new house.

It had all been so disappointing. The kids had literally ripped at their gifts, immediately tossing them aside once opened to grab the next one. They reminded Diana of someone starving who, when faced with a piled plate, eats and eats without allowing time for taste. In no time the mound of presents was reduced to torn wrappings and scattered bows. "Well," stated her cousin, "that's the end of Christmas for this year." Diana had been aghast. She left shortly after, determined to find her own Christmas. And she did, at her friend's house.

For Diana, it was never about presents. She knew that for some people, Christmas is an intensely religious time. While not so for herself, she felt it was a special time of year, a chance to ruminate on what gave life meaning and the mystery and joy of being alive.

The delight of twinkling lights, be they many or few; the pleasure of a pet's unconditional love and trust; the calm assurance that there really is a purpose to everyone's existence, whether we know what it is nor not. But to rush through it or make it about getting more things seemed a futile, lonely way to spend Christmas.

So now she has finished her tea and added more wood to the stove, dampering it down for the afternoon. She will put on layers of clothing, fill up her car with cookie sheets, mixing bowls and candied fruit. She will load the dog into her car so he won't feel left out and she will then drive to her daughter's for a few hours of mixing, rolling and baking. They will chat as they work, keeping an one eye on her grandchild and the other on the oven. The air will fill with the rich cooking smells combined with Christmas songs on the radio and the child's squeals over her dog's antics. What they will be doing is building tradition, together. Diana knew that one day, years and years from now, it will be remembered that first time they baked together while the snow fell and their hearts glowed with love.



pic of the past

This photo shows what was once the Maxwell farm near Burnt River. It was built in 1907, at a spot that became known as Maxwell's crossing. There was a flag station here where orders would be passed on the trains heading north or south along the rail line that terminated in Haliburton village. The photo was provided by the late Vivian Dovell.

letters to the editor

Some politicians are worth more

To the Editor:

I read with much interest Martha Perkins' editorial (The Youth Vote) December 9, 2003. As deputy-reeve for Highlands East and Ward Councillor for Ward 3 I was paid \$12,000 annually plus 35 cents per kilometre while driving on township business. How much time did I devote to performing my duties? Frankly it is difficult to calculate - meetings, taking phone calls, returning calls, checking road complaints, etc. etc. I estimate my time spent performing my duties approximately 20 hours per week. This works out to a tad more than \$11 per hour; considering as an elected official a portion of this is tax free, I believe I was being compensated at a rate of about \$12. per hour. The question, was I worth more? or less?

In the recent election almost 60 per cent of Ward 3 constituents who bothered to vote supported me. So I suppose one could say ward three people believed I was worth \$12,000 per year. However how many knew I was earning \$12,000 per year? I wager not many!

How much are municipal politicians worth? Like people in other professions some try very hard to full fill their obligations. Others take up space at the council table, contribute very little and pick up some extra bucks for every little effort. Very often they are retired people looking to supplement their

retirement income, or perhaps their council stipend allows them to drive a vehicle they otherwise couldn't afford. One reeve earned \$15,000 annually, had a township credit card and still turned in expense accounts that sometimes were around \$2,000 or more. Why does this person need a township credit card plus an expense account? How much does this reeve cost taxpayers? Who knows? Is Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey worth \$22,000 per year? You bet he is - every penny and more. Ms. Perkins asks - what about the next Reeve. Well who knows what the future holds?

One thing we know for sure, not one single politician campaigned on a platform of raising or doubling council paycheques. As long as ratepayers continue to shrug their shoulders with an 'Oh well, what can you do' attitude politicians will continue to do as they please - some of it good, some of it not so good! When a local politician tells you it's not about the money, I do it for the good of the community, don't believe them, it's all about the money! Fortunately some, like Murray Fearrey really do care. The people of Dysart are fortunate to have him.

Chuck Viner
Gooderham

More letters on page 12

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur



Stuart Baker Christmas



The Stuart Baker Elementary School students provided more than a 100 friends and family with the Christmas spirit with various musical and theatrical performances in both French and English such as the Night before Christmas story. Over two days last week the school's activity room was packed with friends and family enjoying the annual Christmas event.



Photos by Darren Lum



Lively light



And God said, "Let there be light." In the spirit of the season Haliburton artist John Crawford submitted this photo illustration to *The Echo*. copyright John Crawford.

A Christmas Story:

Wilberforce resident discovering generosity of community

JANIS COLE

Special to the Echo

This time of year helps us recall special memories, and it calls for meaningful ways to celebrate the holiday season. Movies such as "A Christmas Carol", "It's a Wonderful Life" and "Miracle on 34th Street" can make me feel warm even when it's cold outside, but something else, much closer to home warmed my heart this holiday season.

I live in Wilberforce, and when I moved here a year and a half ago my friend Percy Lavers in Irondale wasted no time exclaiming, "Oh, that's a great community, they're so active over there." Percy's right, and this December I've seen just how brightly the community spirit of Wilberforce can shine, even on a relative newcomer.

It really started back in November when Wyatt Barnes fixed my garage door opener so that I could tuck my new car safely away (my first winter in the north made me realize it's as important to have the car as the house). But alas, the door broke again when slush

froze it shut, forcing me to park in the driveway on November 28th. As fate had it, we in the Highlands experienced the beauty of a foot of fresh snow that night, but by morning the snow and high winds took down trees that resulted in a loss of hydro service all day.

Just before the power went out, news of a different sort of mishap arrived when John Barker came to my door and declared, "You sure look calm for someone who has a big branch on her new car". He saw the shock on my face and continued, "Oh, I guess you didn't know. Well don't worry, I've got the chainsaw so I'll get the branch off and see if there's much damage". And just like that he set to work. As he cut the log, neighbors came over to help

take it away. Then John cleared my driveway with his plow. I could see my new car was quite damaged, a broken windshield, dented hood and missing side mirror for starters. The branch also

took out a side mirror on my old pickup parked beside it. Both vehicles would need repair and I was suddenly without a safe vehicle to drive.

Check to see if In's used this as a letter

It really struck me then how reliant I am on my vehicles for rural living. I was at a loss. But within hours, Mary Harnden offered to lend me her truck, while Bruce and Ron Gibbs took the back off my pickup so that I could do shoulder checks if I needed to use it, then set to work fixing the garage door. My car was hauled off to Bancroft for

“
Oh, that's a great community, they're so active over there
PERCY LAVERS
”

repair and Dan's auto body in Wilberforce ordered the side mirror for the truck. Great, I thought, I'll be back to normal in no time. But there were holdups, and it took longer than expected.

My car was finally ready on December 17th but I needed to get over to Bancroft to get it.

"No problem", Elsie Lewis said, and she took me over even with snow flying that day. I arrived home, happy and safe in my familiar car. Then Dan called to say my mirror would finally be here by Monday. Everything will be back to normal before Christmas. However, were it not for the help of my many friends in Wilberforce, by far the most spirited community of resourceful people I've ever had the pleasure of getting to know, the holidays could have been a wipe out. Instead, because of friends like John and Mary, Bruce and Ron, Wyatt and Kim, Mary H., Elsie, and many, many more, too many to name, I've got even more to be thankful for this holiday season than ever before.

Arts council welcomes municipal support

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Steering Committee of the Arts Council for Haliburton County, I would like to extend thanks to *The Haliburton County Echo* for your coverage of the launch of the Arts Council.

I would like to clarify some of the information provided in the article. The event included a forum (attended by 50 people) which reviewed and provided input on the mission and mandate of the new Arts Council and on initiatives planned for the upcoming year. The forum was followed by the Arty Party which welcomed approximately 150+ community members interested and involved in the arts.

The article stated that the Steering Committee will have a councillor from each of the four municipalities - this should read that the Steering Committee has representation from residents in each of the municipalities. Although we welcome the support of municipal councillors there is no formal municipal representation at this time. The Steering Committee is made up of enthusiastic individuals from around the county who are interested in being champions for the arts. These individuals are involved in many areas of interest and business.

The sub-title of the article stated "Haliburton County Arts Council seeking municipality support". The Arts Council looks forward to working with municipal governments to find creative ways to support the arts in Haliburton County as important contributors to the quality of life and to community economic development and to working with all sectors of the county to contribute to the economy and the vibrancy of community life.

The Arts Council appreciates the ongoing coverage and support from *The Haliburton County Echo* and *The Minden Times* on arts initiatives and events in Haliburton County and looks forward to additional articles about developments in the local arts community.

Jim Blake
Consultant

Arts Council for Haliburton County

Councillors thumb noses at voters by raising pay

To the Editor:

It didn't take long for our newly elected municipal council to show their true colours. While thumbing their collective noses at the electorate they managed, as their first item of business, to slip their fingers into the public purse and grant themselves a pay raise that makes them the highest paid elected officials in the county.

How thoughtful of the reeve and his deputy to step out of the room during the "debate" and vote. Who do

they think they're kidding?

It is especially galling to see the first time councillors sanctimoniously voting themselves a raise before they have actually contributed to the cause. They knew the pay scale before they ran for office. No doubt council thinks that all will be forgotten by the time we go to the polls again in three years. They should think again.

D. Knowles
Haliburton

Striking sound of a lake freezing part of the magic of Highlands life

To the Editor:

Never having lived so near a lake that freezes in the winter (living all my life until a year ago in cities bordering Lake Ontario), I wasn't prepared for the wonderfully frightening, melancholic sound of Green Lake as it freezes this winter.

My first hearing of this fascinating sound occurred during a recent evening when I was sitting reading. I put my book down to give my full attention to the sound and even went out onto my front deck, thinking it might be an animal in some kind of distress. At times the sound was a low moan, at times a distant roar. When I was outside, I realized the sound was all

around me in the air and wasn't an animal.

I went to bed that night being serenaded by the sound. The next morning I walked down my road and the sound was echoing all along the lake and at that time, I realized it was the lake moaning and roaring. I stood transfixed by, yet again, another wonder that nature has presented to me since moving here from "the city". I have added this lovely discovery to my growing list of reasons why I am living here.

Another contented escapee from Southern Ontario
Pat Rosenplot
Green Lake



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Haliburton's squash club begins life anew

MATTHEW WALLS

Staff Reporter

After almost 20 years of thriving existence, with a membership at times reaching above the hundred mark, four years ago the Haliburton Squash Club reached a point where its shrunken ranks, now a lowly 20, could no longer afford the costs of keeping its two courts at the curling club open so the club folded.

Its courts languished in disrepair, one even freighted under water – the fault of a roof left neglected – and its change rooms and washrooms were gradually lost to an expanding curling club.

No more. The club, with a list of 60 willing members and a letter of support from Dysart et al, has been resurrected. One-time members, their children grown and time on their hands, are getting back into the sport, said Glen Carter, once a lifetime member of the club.

An architect has volunteered to draw plans for an addition, likely to cost \$100,000. The Haliburton Development Corporation provided a \$5,000 grant to spur fundraising. An executive and a board of directors was formed, and a work bee scheduled for the holidays. Already, the leaky roof no longer leaks.

The next step, Carter said, is to collect more money through its 'supporting memberships.' The \$50 fee will subsidize the renovations and membership drive; the individual in turn receives \$50 off the next year's membership, likely to be between \$100 and \$200.

New members will have one court to use, until the other is sanded and repainted. The court will be open only during curling club hours.

Since their change rooms have been

DARREN LUM/Echo



Haliburton Squash Club President Glen Carter believes the neglected #2 squash court at the Haliburton Curling Club is far from being ready to play on. It will take more than a broom. Water damage to the floor caused from a leak in the roof will be keeping club members playing on the #1 squash court. The floor needs to be repaired, but does not appear to need replacing and a fresh coat of paint is in order as well.

taken over by the curling club, the squash club is considering renovating a storage room with some showers and bench, although this is only a short-term measure, Carter said.

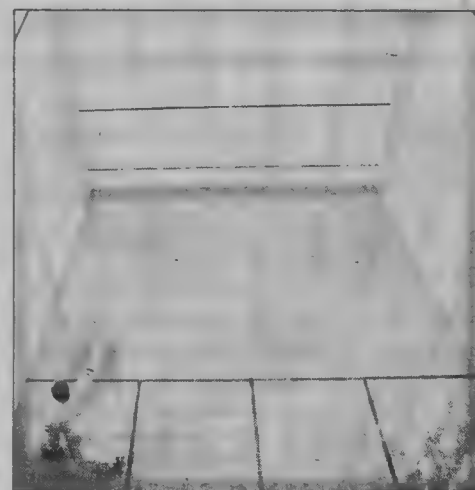
"There doesn't seem to be enough room for long-term use."

Since the curling club is unwilling to give up the space it has swallowed, the squash club hopes to get some funding

from the Ontario Small Town Assistance (OSTAR) to build an addition.

There is also the possibility that the curling club, which wants a larger dining facility to host bonspiels, might join the squash club in building an addition. The addition would potentially allow the curlers to expand and return space to the squash club.

As part of its membership drive, the squash club will hold an Open House on Friday, January 23rd, with a cash bar and refreshments. If interested, please call Glen Carter at 457-2862



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ACROSS FROM HALIBURTON LUMBER

Red Hawks wrestlers earn their holidays with recent results

PAUL KLOSE

Special to the Echo

The Red Hawk Wrestling Team completed the pre-Christmas tournament schedule.

On Wednesday December 17, 26 HHSS wrestlers competed against 260 athletes at the Port Hope Invitational Wrestling Tournament. As the season progresses, the calibre of competition continues to increase. Red Hawks wrestlers performed well throughout the day. Several members of the team had their best matches of the season.

Melanie Howitt dominated her weight class, winning three matches to take home a gold medal. In four tournaments so far this season, Melanie has won three gold medals and one silver medal. Through hard work at practices and success at competitions, she has earned a reputation as the top competitor in her weight class for this region. Jackie Grech continues to gain confidence in her ability

as a wrestler. She had two of her best matches of the season to rank second in her weight class. Korey Hissa battled her way to the finals to win a bronze medal.

The junior boys faced stiff competition on Wednesday. This was the first open tournament of the season. All competitors, regardless of their ages, were placed in weight classes. As a result, grade 9 wrestlers may have had matches against senior wrestlers.

Max Ambridge had seven gruelling matches to take home a well-deserved 4th place finish. Ryan Cole, Jason Lougheed and Jake Ruddy also earned 4th places. Adam DeCarlo won the bronze medal at 104 lbs. Dave Balaski won three of his four matches to earn a silver medal. Dave continues to improve his technique to consistently rank in the top three at tournaments.

The Red Hawk Wrestling Team continues the competitive schedule in two weeks with a tournament in Cobourg on January 9.



DARREN LUM/Echo

Winning trend: HHSS forward Ryan Bottum avoids an LCVI checker in the third period. HHSS beat LCVI 5-0 and now post a division leading 7-1-2 record.



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Christmas
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Jamie Bacon, Spencer, Steve,
Ted, Joel, Jacquie, Allan & Lyndell



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Merry Christmas



Our best wishes to friends, both old and new, for a safe and happy Christmas Holiday. May the New Year bring renewed resolutions of "Peace on Earth and Goodwill to All"

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'Tis the season

The Haliburton Curling Club's annual bonspiel sponsored by Curry Motors, Haliburton IGA, Walkers Heating and Cooling Systems and Rexall Drugs raised \$1,500 for the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. That brings the club's total donations to \$8,200. The winning team was Phyllis Woodcock and "the kids." Chester Howse, club president, presented the cheque to Dale Walker, HHHSF executive director, and Don Popple Campaign chairman.



At this beautiful time of year we wish you a season filled with cheer. As the snow falls to the ground may peace and joy reign all around.

Wishing you a

Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year



Bill Davis
Deputy Reeve,
Dysart Et Al

Holiday Wishes

As years go by, we are sure you will agree time seems to move faster and faster. Here we are with another Christmas Season upon us.

Our wish for you this season is that each and every one of us takes enough time from our busy lives to embrace and enjoy all the good things this time of year has to offer.

Throughout the year each of our lives are filled with many trials and tribulations. It is times like these that make reflection on our many blessings a necessity in today's society.

During the holidays enjoy your friendships, your family gatherings and most of all the many blessings we have throughout the year.

Happy Holidays

Linda Baumgartner & Troy Austen

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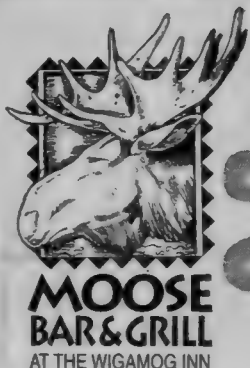


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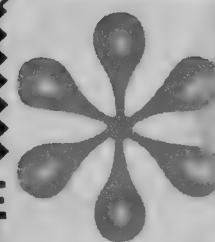
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Staff Reporter

SHERYL LOUCKS//Echo



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YAMAHA

Book is only one aspect of banner year

from page 21

manila envelope stories in newspapers about writers and ads for creative writing courses.

"I didn't want to tell anyone because you know as a successful business person it didn't somehow seem professional to want to write stories. So I had this brown envelope full of all this stuff that I kept in my Escape. My son was driving and found it and said 'Mom, what's this?'"

She answered her son's question and shortly afterward he had an extremely seriously accident while driving the Escape. The vehicle was destroyed. Thomas says he was dazed when he crawled out of the back of the Escape and happened to stumble upon the envelope that had been thrown from the SUV. He stuffed it into his backpack before succumbing to a concussion.

"He came down the stairs (in their home) a week later and said 'I've got something for you.' He pulls out this manila envelope with all my writing treasures in it covered in blood and mud. My 17-year-old, in a state of concussion and shock, had picked it up, I can't believe he even thought to do that," she says, shaking her head, still astonished.

The envelope had been the last thing on her mind in the period of her son's frightening accident. In March of this year, a few months after the accident, Marjorie Green held a local writing class intended to refresh people's skills. Thomas decided there had been "too many coincidences pointing me that way" so she signed up.

At that point, Thomas says she did not believe that just because she enjoyed writing as a child that meant she could actually be a writer. Her biggest lesson was learning to be comfortable reading her work again in front of a small group and giving herself permission to write - not to view it as unproductive time.

She had actually already started to write again. Late last year she flew back home to NZ to see her family and had a long lay over in Honolulu. She start thinking about her little niece Sofie who is dying from a rare liver disorder and how she may not live to have adventures. So on a whim she decided to write a story about Sofie having an adventure. Her niece loved it.

This year, after completing Green's course, she decided it was not enough to write a dry, formal thank-you letter to the hospice that had cared for her father. Thomas decided to use the skills she had been sharpening in Green's class and wrote a story about the staff and how well they cared for their patients.

"The story was so well received. They tell me that the volunteers, board, everyone cried realizing that what they do was appreciated. They allowed my Dad to die with dignity and grace. The administration decided to publish the story and use it in fundraising for Hospice NZ. So the next thing I knew I was published and circulating in NZ," says Thomas.

Buoyed by the success she sent a friend, who had recently had two coffee table books published in NZ, her story about Sofie. The publisher liked them so much they asked Thomas to write four children's books about Sofie. To Thomas the publishing aspect is still a bit unreal; her impetus at this point is still telling stories for her niece.

"Sofie is on a liver transplant list. I wanted to capture the essence of Sof's feisty spirit and give her the adventures she may never have. So I decided she needed a fun companion and in the stories gave her Lulu (Thomas' real-life Schnauzer) as a crazy sidekick. I'm sure if they met (in person) they would be kindred spirits."

She is negotiating with the publisher to have information about Sofie's disease included on the back cover of the book and is hoping that by publishing the books they will be able to raise money and awareness for liver transplantations and diseases.

"It's important. A good day for Sofie would be like us waking up with a bad hangover. But she has the most sunny disposition. She's thrilled about the books. I phoned her up and she says, 'Rob-bob (her pet name for her Aunt Robyn), what's going on?' And at the end of the conversation she says, 'Rob-bob don't forget Sofie loves you, too.'"

The author is currently working on a story about Sofie playing in the snow, something her little five-year-old niece has never done. She watches her dog Lulu play for inspiration. Lulu's long expressive ears and super friendly attitude make the adorable pet perfect for the role. Thomas'

daughter Larissa, a student at the Ontario Academy of Art and Design, has been given the opportunity to do the illustrations for the stories. The publishers are being flexible on when they require Thomas to submit the stories. She has finished two stories and is working on the third.

In the meantime, after completing Green's course Thomas became not only involved with a Minden's Writer Circle but also its coordinator. She finds this "terrific supportive group" has made "the journey of writing exciting" for her again. She is also sitting on the board of directors for the Haliburton Highlands Writers and Editors Network.

Pauline Johnson, a spokesperson for the Network, says that in less than a year this fledgling umbrella group has exploded with well over 60 members including amateurs and professional writers publishing books, screenplays and other forms of writing. The Network, Johnson says, is a way for writers to get information about the business of writing, hear speakers and liaise with other writers and groups. It is the board's intention to start writers' circles across Haliburton County.

Thomas will play an integral role in that area. Her other daughter Ainslie is keen on helping to lead a teens' writing circle which they hope to host on the second Wednesday of each month at the Thomas house. Thomas also wants to start having meetings in Haliburton for adults who have expressed an interest in a writer's circle.

Canoe Radio has also offered Thomas her own show to use as a way to promote local authors after she did an interview with Jack Brezina on his weekly arts program. Her intention is to start with a show once a month to see how it goes. She wants to look at poets, writers, song writers both locally and internationally.

In the midst of all this excitement she also won a short story writing contest in NZ and has had a Christmas story published in a NZ newspaper with a circulation of 150,000. The newspaper editor has also asked her to write a column. A surprising twist for a girl who swore to never write again.

Anyone interested in learning more about the writers' circles can call Thomas at 457-2625. The Network will be having a luncheon open to the public on January 15 at

A Silly Goose!

This is the beginning of one of Robyn Thomas's books starring her niece Sofie and her sidekick Lulu.

Sofie rolled over and over, spiralling like a purple sausage down the long, green slope. She bumped and jiggled across sweet-scented clover grass and pebbles worn smooth, rubbed white as Nana Bea's hair.

"Here I come pond!" she shouted.

Sofie stopped with a plop, upon a circlet of sand, golden as a king's crown. Water, warm and inviting teased her tiny, wiggling toes.

"Look at me Alice. Ha ha ha," Sofie's tinkling laugh danced from shore to shore.

"Ha ha ha," echoed the pond, rippling soft and silky.

"The pond is laughing!" Alice smiled at her little cousin.

"Play with me Lulu," Sofie shouted.

"Play with me Lulu," called the pond.

"Listen Alice, the pond wants to play with Lulu too."

Lulu her pup, yapped excitedly. What fun! She ran, bouncing round and round the old, red maple tree and Sofie chasing close behind. Sofie liked the old tree and sometimes climbed the lowest branches, hiding all by herself.

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Sharing the family spirit at Extendicare:

Friends and families of many of the residents of Extendicare in Haliburton enjoyed a Christmas visit and luncheon recently. Music was provided by a local music group, 'In Harmony', who often play at local health care facilities. More than 100 people took part in the festivities.

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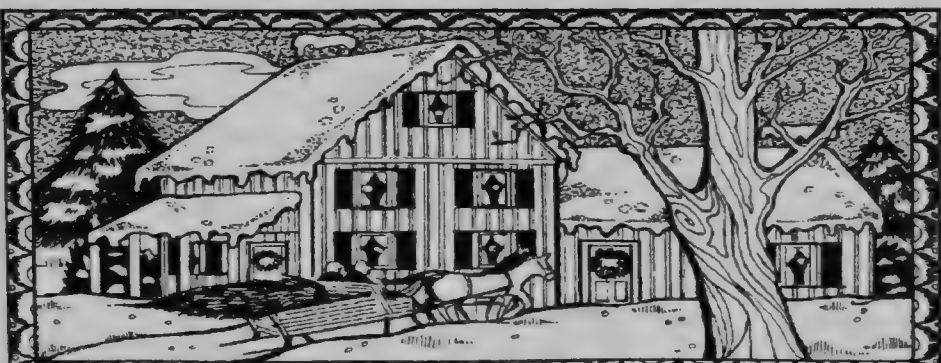
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A baking we will go this special season

Yes, it is that time of year to bake. Here are some of my favourite recipes that work well for cookie swaps or the freezer.

Jam-Filled Thumbprint Cookies

2 eggs
1 cup butter
1/2 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 tsp salt
1 tsp. almond extract
2 cups all purpose flour
1 cup finely chopped nuts
Jam or preserves

fun with food

cooking with franca

Franca Andriano

Separate the eggs. Set aside. Beat butter in a mixer for 30 seconds. Add brown sugar and salt. Beat till fluffy. Beat in egg yolks and almond extract.

Add flour to butter mixture, beating till well combined. Shape dough into one-inch balls. Roll the balls of dough in the slightly beaten egg whites, then in the chopped nuts. Almonds work well.

Arrange the shaped cookies on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake in 375° oven for 5 minutes. Remove cookies from the oven. Press the centre of each cookie, leaving a thumbprint. Return cookies to the oven. Bake about 7 more minutes or until done.

Remove to wire rack. Fill each cookie with jam or preserves. Store in a single layer. Makes 30.

Christmas Biscotti

1/2 cup butter
3 cups butter
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
1 egg yolk
2 1/2 tsp baking powder
1 teaspoon aniseed, crushed or one-quarter teaspoon anise extract
1 tbsp. finely shredded orange peel
1/2 chopped red-candied cherries
1/2 cup chopped mixed candied fruit
1 egg white
1 tsp water
1 tbsp sugar

Beat butter in a large bowl with electric mixer for 30 seconds. Add one cup of the flour, the one-cup sugar, whole

eggs, egg yolk, baking powder, and the anise. Beat till thoroughly combined. Stir or beat in orange peel and remaining flour. Stir in candied fruits. Divide dough in half.

Shape each half into an 11x2x1 inch loaf. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Combine egg white and water. Brush over dough. Sprinkle with the one-tablespoon sugar.

Bake in 375° oven for 20-25 minutes or till light brown. Cool on cookie sheet about one hour.

Reduce oven temperature to 325°. Cut each loaf diagonally into one half inch slices. Lay slices; cut side up on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 10 minutes. Turn slices over and bake 10-15 minutes more or till dry and crisp.

Remove and cool on wire rack. Makes

about 36.

Keep in a tin or plastic container and they will last for weeks, if you don't eat them first.

For those that find them too hard, dunk them in your tea or coffee.

Almond Crescents

1 cup butter
1/4 cup sifted powdered sugar
1 tablespoon water
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 cups all purpose flour
1 cup chopped blanched almonds

Beat butter in a mixing bowl for 30 seconds.

Add the powdered sugar and beat till combined. Add water and vanilla/ beat till well combined. Beat in as much flour as you can. Stir in any remaining flour and the almonds.

Using a scant tablespoon of dough for each, form into crescents about 2 inches long.

Place on an ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake in a 325° oven for 20 minutes or till bottoms are lightly browned. While warm roll in powdered sugar. Roll again in powdered sugar before serving. Make 48

Tip: Put powdered sugar in a plastic bag, add some crescents and shake.

Tip: If you don't have blanched almonds boil some whole almonds for a minute and the skins will peel off.

*Season's Greeting
Franka*

Ideas for a vegetarian Christmas

by Erin Lynch

Your Christmas dinner menu is planned, the turkey is ordered when you get a phone call from your granddaughter. She is now a vegetarian and will not be eating turkey or gravy this holiday season. No need to fret.

Lentil Loaf

2 cans of lentils
1 tablespoon of Olive Oil
1/ medium onion diced
1 clove of garlic minced
1 carrot diced
1/2 tsp pepper
1 tsp sage
1/2 tsp thyme
1 egg
1 tsp soya sauce
1/2 cup rolled oats, finely ground
1/2 cup bread crumbs
1/3 cup chopped fresh parsley

Saute the onions and garlic in the olive oil. After a few minutes, add the sage and thyme and then the carrot. Saute for five minutes.

Drain and rinse the lentils. In a large bowl combine the lentils, egg, rolled oats, parsley soya sauce, onions, carrot, and garlic. Once combined, put mixture into a greased loaf pan. Top with bread crumbs. Bake at 325 for 30 minutes. Top with vegetarian gravy.

Vegetarian Gravy

2 tablespoon of butter or oil
3 tablespoon of flour
2 cups of milk or vegetable stock
1 cup ground toasted nuts (cashews, almonds pecans...) salt
pepper

Heat the butter or oil in the saucepan, until melted/hot. Whisk in flour and stir continuously for one minute.

Remove from heat for 2-3 minutes

Return saucepan to stove and whisk in the milk and nuts.

Simmer, stirring constantly until thickened, 3-5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper and serve.

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Thank You

It is that time of year again, when I have the privilege of thanking some very special people. Our Christmas Bazaar and Country Christmas Party are the last big events in this calendar year. Even though the weather did not cooperate we had great participation for our residents.

Proceeds from our Bazaar this year will again go to provide each resident with a timely gift for Christmas Day. We thank Barb Fawcett and Sylvia Claridge for their generous contributions. Our helpers came out through the snow to help put it all together. Staff and residents helped purchase our baking, crafts and white elephants.

On Sunday, the 14th we celebrate our Annual Country Christmas Party. The nursing staff got everybody ready promptly. Our Dietary Staff put on a big spread for residents and their family members. Again, everybody braved the snow for this festive occasion. I thank the Activity staff for helping coordinate the set up. Because of all the help, our residents look beautiful. None of this could happen without the work of Housekeeping and Laundry. The group, "In Harmony" entertained the family members with songs of the season.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

Sincerely, Barbara J. Menzies
Resident Program Manager
Extendicare, Haliburton



DARREN LUM/Echo



Santa paid a special visit to the Haliburton Early Years Centre

The Haliburton Ontario Early Years Centre had a visitor last week. Amy Black, Evelyn Beachli, and Grace Kovacs compare their make-up skills with Evelyn's newly acquired make-up kit as Santa Claus receives another gift request for Christmas. A Christmas feast was served, including turkey provided by the centre. Carols were sung and a good time was enjoyed by everyone.

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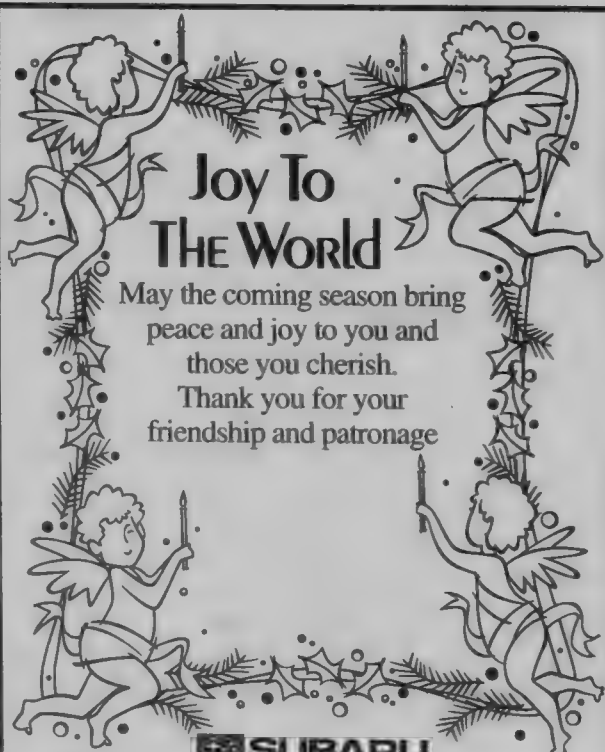
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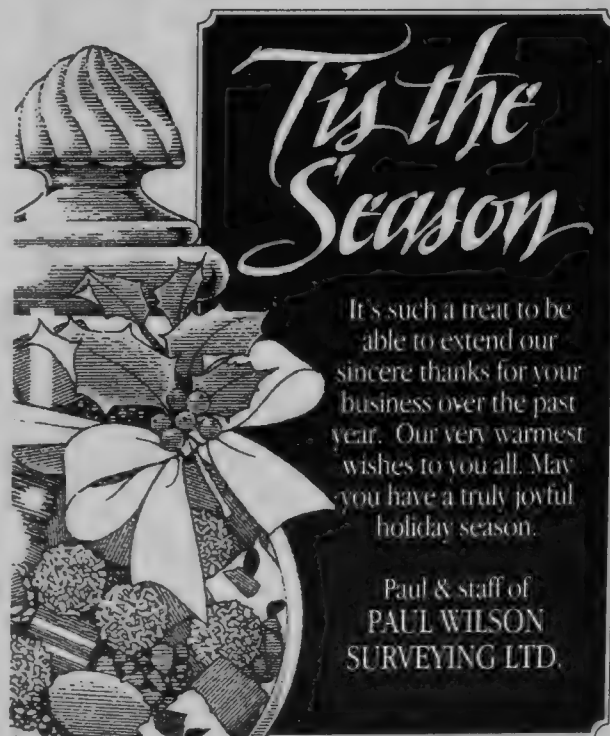
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Stay on the healthy track at Christmas

This is the time of year to celebrate, and food is one of the pleasures of parties, holiday festivities and family gatherings. At the same time, the rush of the holiday season often means physical activity takes a back seat to shopping, wrapping, visiting and eating.

This combination often leads to New Year's resolutions with weight loss in mind. In January vague promises to lose weight, cut back and exercise more abound. But January quickly becomes February and the New Year's resolutions have gone the way of the holiday decorations.

Instead of repeating this cycle again this year, why not make healthy lifestyle resolutions now that have a chance of surviving the holiday season and lasting into the New Year and beyond?

- Change your view of holiday eating.

Take the focus off the short holiday season and put it into the other 51 weeks of the year. Adopting healthier habits through the year will mean you will enjoy traditional holiday fare without the guilt.

- Don't fall into the January diet trap.

Weight-loss diet ads offering quick fixes seem to escalate in January at the very time that we're most vulnerable to them. Not surprising, a recent study found that at least 55 per cent of weight loss ads contain misleading and often false information. In addition, years of scientific study along with real-life experience show us repeatedly that diets simply don't work. No matter what fancy package they're in, weight-loss diets involve reducing calories to levels that are often far below what we need to be healthy. Our bodies respond by conserving calories at all costs. It's not difficult to understand why approximately 95 per cent of dieters gain the weight back when the diet inevitably ends.

Above all, forget the all-or-nothing mind set.

Depriving yourself of special holiday foods or feeling guilty when you do enjoy them isn't part of a healthy eating strategy. It's certainly not part of the holiday spirit!

When contemplating your lifestyle resolutions, treat yourself as you would treat a friend coming to you for help. Amid all the festivities and excitement of the holidays, the best gift you can give yourself, your family and friends is your good health.

Need more details about healthy eating? Contact the Registered Dietitian at your local Health Unit office.



Jackson wedding

Robert and Elaine Jackson announce the marriage of their son Blake to Caroline Hunt in Paynton, Cheshire, United Kingdom on October 11, 2003. They are living and working in Stoke-in-Trent area but will be home for the holidays.

10 Things To Do On Boxing Day That Don't Involve Shopping

ERIN LYNCH

Special to The Echo

1. Bundle up, find some dry wood and have an outdoor fire.
2. Make a back yard ice rink.
3. Build a snowman, snow sculpture or igloo.
4. Start a Christmas scrap book with pictures, tags,

records and family lists.

5. Make a holiday photo collage.
6. Watch an old movie.
7. Create a creative turkey leftover recipe like: Turkey Curry or Turkey Fajitas.
8. Call a friend you haven't talked to for a long time.
9. Go for a moonlit walk.
10. Find a hill and go tobogganing.

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Cardiff Food Bank receives early Christmas gift from Branch 8 OPP association

The Cardiff Community Food Bank and the 79 families it serves will benefit this holiday season from a generous donation from Branch 8 of the Ontario Provincial Police Association.

The OPP Association for Northumberland, Kawartha Lakes, Peterborough and Haliburton Counties recently completed its second annual food drive. The association's area contains 20 known food banks so a random draw is done to choose the benefactor. This year a donation was made to the Cardiff food bank consisting of approximately \$350 worth of food and \$100 of cash. The donations are collected during the association's Christmas party.

The Cardiff food bank is an emergency service families can use only once a month. Last year they provided for approximately 479 people and distributed about 5,000 lbs of groceries. Evelyn Mutis says she and the food bank's board were thrilled at the unexpected donation by the association since they are not located in a larger village with broad business and public support.

Mutis wishes to extend "a big thank-you to all those who have aided us over the past few years" and reminds the public that "Christmas is 12 months of the year at a food bank."



The Cardiff Food Bank received a \$350 donation in food and \$100 in cash from the 8 Branch of the OPP Association. (l-r) Evelyn Mutis, food bank chairwoman, Doris Hogan, vice chair, Harry Strachon, treasurer, Madeline Gaboury treasurer, Clare Flagler, secretary and OPP Cst. Bettina Schwarze.

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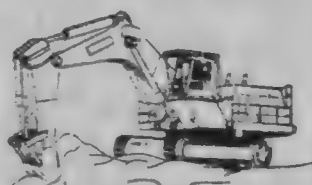


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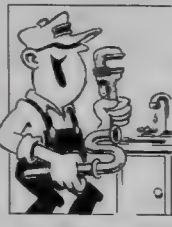
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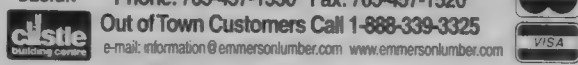
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*2nd pair must be of equal or lesser value.

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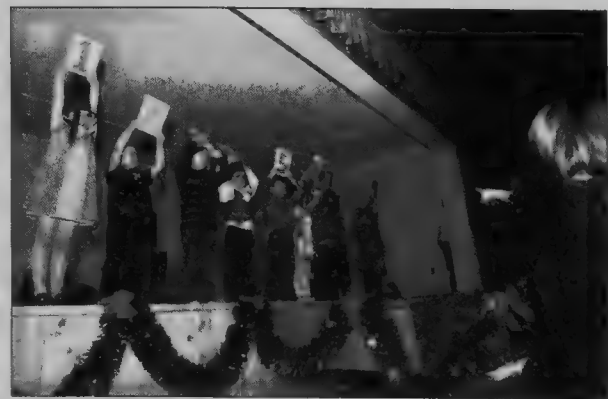
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Wilberforce students show Christmas cheer



Sounds, sights of Christmas, a feast for the senses

VALERIE SMITH

Special to the Echo

As I looked upon the green, white and red strips of the paper chain adorning the school walls my memory floated back to a poem I once heard. "December 1st until Christmas is the longest time of the year. It seems as though old Santa never will appear. How many days until Christmas? It's mighty hard to count. So this little chain of green, red and white links will tell you the amount."

Scissors, glue, strips of red, green, white and gooey little fingers transcends over countless years and remains a favourite tradition at Christmas time. The colourful links lead me to reflect upon the last couple of weeks. My thoughts drifted from the stage of the Northern Lights Theatre to the Cardiff gym portable. I envisioned accomplished music performers to little ones so serious, trying so hard, so cute and so funny. I reflected upon the hours of rehearsals and all the dedicated staff who worked with children of all ages providing "Winter Concerts", "Christmas Concerts" and "Christmas Traditions Assemblies". I thought of all the colorful decorations adorning the school walls from Archie Stouffer School in the west to the schools in the Village of Haliburton, to Wilberforce E.S. and on to Cardiff E.S. in the east.

What a variety of delights I witnessed and heard! There was everything ranging from tinkling bells; sweet voices; guitar music; little fingers and hands gracefully signing songs; instrumental bands; and songs in English and French. There were songs of "Too Fat Santa", "Silent Night", "Little Drummer Boy", "Upon the House Top", "Rudolph the Red - Nosed Reindeer", "Away in A Manger" and the ever popular and the many varied versions of "12 Days of Christmas".

I was so moved to see the many parents, grandparents, friends and relatives who took time out of their busy lives to come out and see their children perform.

As in many communities, Christmas presentations are "long standing traditions". In the schools of Harcourt and surrounding area, I have found a record of this tra-

See **School** page 34



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

- **DATE:** Wednesday, January 14th, 2004.
- **TIME:** 11:00 am.
- **LOCATION:** Council Chambers, Municipal Office, Haliburton, Ontario.

APPLICATIONS:

1. D13-MV-03-022 – Sir Sandford Fleming College
 - Purpose and Effect: to permit the construction of a school.
 - Reduce the exterior side building setback to 11.5 feet to College Road.
 - Reduce the street setback to 42.5 feet to the center line of College Road.
 - Permit a parking area to be constructed 23 feet from an exterior side lot line (College Road).
 - Location: Part Lot 15, Concession 9, Dysart Township.
2. D13-MV-03-028 – Jill Krahule
 - Purpose and Effect: to permit construction of a garage.
 - Reduce the street setback to 34.5 feet to the centre line of Wigamog Road (formerly N. Kashagawigamog Lake Road).
 - Reduce the rear building setback to 2 feet.
 - Reduce the parking area location setback to 2 feet from a street line.
 - Location: Part Lot 4, Concession 6, Lot 2, Plan 557, Dysart Township (Kashagawigamog Lake).
3. D13-MV-03-029 – D. Claire Reesor
 - Purpose and Effect: to legalize a storage shed.
 - Reduce the water setback to 52.5 feet.
 - Location: Part Lot 21, Concession 6, Lot 9, Plan 513, Havelock Township (Little Kennisis Lake).
4. D13-MV-03-030 – Estate of Betty Dawson
 - Purpose and Effect: to legally recognize an existing garage.
 - to permit an accessory building to exist prior to the main building.
 - Location: Part Lot 14, Concession 8, Dysart Township (County Road 21).
 - This application applies to application for consent H-112/2003.
5. D13-MV-03-031 – Richard and Margaret Despard
 - Purpose and Effect: to permit construction of a seasonal dwelling.
 - Reduce the side building setback to 5 feet next to the east side lot line.
 - Location: Part Lot 19, Concession 4, Lot 19, Plan 636, Dudley Township (Miskwabi Lake).

ANY PERSON is entitled to attend the hearing in person to express his/her views about these applications or may be represented by Counsel for that purpose. If you do not attend the hearing the Committee may proceed in your absence and you will not be entitled to any further notice of the proceedings. The Committee will accept written submissions. **A copy of the decision will be sent to the applicant, the agent and to each person who has filed with the Secretary Treasurer a written request for notice of the decision.**

FURTHER INFORMATION: including specific information about the setbacks affected by each application, is available from the Planning Department at the Municipal Office during regular office hours (9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Date: December 22nd, 2003

Patricia Martin
Secretary – Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment



The students of Wilberforce Elementary School gave the more than 100 people the warm feeling of Christmas at the Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre in Wilberforce last week. They performed traditional nursery rhymes and one Christmas ghost story, and the school's choir sang traditional and non-traditional songs. Birthday wishes for the school's principal Birdie Murphy were given near the beginning of the performance by the choir.



Photos on both pages
by Darren Lum



NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION TO PURCHASE ROAD ALLOWANCE MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

DATE: January 12th, 2004
TIME: any person who wishes to address Council should contact the Planning Department for a delegation time.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, Municipal Office, Haliburton, Ontario.

APPLICATIONS:

The Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al has by resolution declared the following parcels of land to be surplus. These parcels of land are parts of original road allowances, allowances for road or shoreline road allowances, located in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton.

- Applicant: Niziol
Location: - Kennisis Lake
- Shoreline Road Allowance
- Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lot 6, Concession 2 Township of Havelock.
- Defined as Parts 1 and 2 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.
- Applicant: John Richard Dill Trust
Location: - Kennisis Lake
- Shoreline Road Allowance
- Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lots 6 and 7, Concession 13 Township of Guilford
- Defined as Parts 1, 2 and 3 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.
- Applicants: Kortekaas
Location: - Haliburton Lake
- Shoreline Road Allowance/Allowance for Road
- Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lot 15, Concession 7; and
- Part of the Allowance for Road, Registered Plan 362, Township of Harburn
- Defined as Parts 4, 5 and 6 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.
- Applicants: Allan
Location: - Kawagama Lake
- Shoreline Road Allowance/Original Road Allowance
- Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lot 4, Concession 13; and
- Part of the Original Road Allowance Between Concessions 12 and 13, Township of Havelock
- Defined as Part 1 on Plan 19R-5712 and Part 1 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Coote, Hiley, Jemmett Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al proposes to consider and if deemed appropriate enact at its meeting as noted above, a by-law to close, stop-up and convey the portions of road allowance described above.

BEFORE PASSING the said by-law, the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al shall at its meeting to be held as noted above, hear in person or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his land will be affected by the said by-law.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION is available for review from the Planning Department at the Municipal Office during regular offices hours (9:00 am. to 5:00 pm. Monday to Friday).

DATED at the Township of Dysart, this 16th day of December, 2003.

Patricia E. Martin
M.C.I.P., R.P.P.
Township Planner



ROADS DEPARTMENT POSITION AVAILABLE

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RESUMES RECEIVED UNTIL
JANUARY 5, 2004 3:30 P.M.

Attention: Municipality of Dysart et al
Box 389
Haliburton K0M 1S0

Miles Maughan
Road Superintendent

We thank all those who apply; however, only those
selected for an interview will be contacted.

School Christmas concerts have a long standing history dating back to 1926

from page 32

dition dating back over many years. My mother, Doreen (Townsend) Oakes often speaks of how exciting it was for her as a child to prepare for the "Annual Christmas Concert". They would start in mid-November to get ready for this special community event. The older boys would build a stage and parents would work on appropriate costumes. Teachers Velma Scott and Marg Stoughton both played the ancient organ which was housed in the school and to this accompaniment the students sang such songs as "Deck the Halls", "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem", "Away in a Manger" and they always acted out the

story of the "Birth of Christ". Mom also recalls Gloria Roderigue playing her guitar as attendant music during the concerts.

In old schools registers I found the following comments on school Christmas concerts:

1926, December 15. Harcourt S.S. #1, (Kennaway School). "Christmas concert in aid of hot lunches."

1936, Harcourt S.S. #2 School, teacher Miss Margaret (Smith) Stoughton. "S.S. No Five Cardiff and Harcourt had a joint Christmas Concert, which proved very successful."

1937, Harcourt S.S. # 2 School. "The children and outsiders put on a fine

Christmas Concert."

1940, Harcourt S.S. #2, teacher Mrs. Velma (Miller) Scott, "The annual Christmas concert was put on, the proceeds was supplemented by a donation of \$9.00 from the Standard Chemical Company. In the winter the girls used some of the money and knit for the Salvation Army and made an afghan, which was also given to the Salvation Army."

1941, Harcourt S.S. #2, teacher Mr. Harold Jackman. "As usual at Christmas, a concert was put on by the pupils. From part of the proceeds ten dollars was given towards the building of a church and ten dollars to the Evening Telegram's British War Victims Fund. As in the previous year, the Standard Chemical generously gave us a donation."

1948, December 21, S.S. # 3 Cardiff, Highland Grove. "For the first time in a number of years the school combined with S.S. # 4 Cardiff for a joint Christmas concert and tree in the Orange Hall in Highland Grove. A dance followed."

When speaking of community spirit does anyone remember 1955, and the opening of the new Highland Grove Public School, and a school yell that went like this: "What school! This school! Whose school? Our school, 1-2-3-4-What's orange and green for? Highland Grove Public School. Hurrah!"

Volunteers are the backbones of Harcourt and surrounding areas. In my efforts to thank everyone I did miss some. For this I apologize. I wish to thank Angela (Young) Scott and Cindy Watson, to Pathfinder Elf, Kristyn Hatt and to Christine Godfrey. Thank you everyone!

Thank you to the Monmouth Volunteer Fire Department and the Cardiff Volunteer Fire Department; thank you to Wilberforce & Area Police Volunteer Association

(WAPVA). At the Wilberforce Santa Claus parade WAPVA members - John Goverde, Pat Simiana, Gwen Saunderson, Gurda Goverde and Don Wilson, who braved the cold winter elements, directing traffic and assisted wherever needed. WAPVA acts as the "eyes and ears" for the OPP and assists them when requested. Our volunteer police members like our volunteer firefighters make dedicated commitments of their own time and give this time unselfishly to their communities. They do not preach the brotherhood of man. They simply live it.

Special events coming up in the Harcourt Community:

December 24: Christmas Eve Service at the Harcourt Chapel. The evening starting at 7:00 P.M. will be filled with Carol Singing and the young people will be involved in the service led by Mr. Chris Kegel. Refreshments following.

December 31: New Year's Eve Dance at Harcourt Community Centre. "Classic Country" will be on hand to help you welcome in the New Year and enjoy this special evening of dancing, party hats and hot roast beef buffet dinner. Cost of tickets are \$30.00 a couple and are available for sale for those who like to plan ahead and do not want to miss this special evening by calling Ross Covert at 448 3196.

December 31: The 35th Annual New Years Eve Program will be celebrated at the Harcourt Community Chapel starting at 9:00 p.m. Contains both a party of music, skits, puppets, refreshments and a service element. Special Guests for the evening will be Mr. and Mrs. Raye Harrington. Everyone is welcome.

Remember: "He who has no Christmas in his heart will never find Christmas under a tree so honor the wonderment of the Christmas Spirit and share it throughout the coming year"

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Environmental Assessment of a Proposed Bell Canada Tower Site on Hadlington Road

Bell Canada is planning to construct a telecommunications tower, approximately 200 feet in height, on the Hadlington Road.† The new tower will give residents of that area access to basic phone service.

A site for the tower has been selected, as shown on the accompanying map.† As you may be aware, that site is on Crown land.† In order to acquire rights to the site, Bell Canada has applied to the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) for a long term licence of occupation.† To fulfill its obligations under the provincial Environmental Assessment Act, the MNR must evaluate the potential impacts that the tower could have on the natural environment and on existing human activities, before making a decision about Bell's application.† In this regard, input from the local residents who could be affected by the tower will be taken into consideration. †Both supporting and critical comments may be expressed.

You are invited to direct any comments you may have about the proposed tower to:

Scott Bird
Minden Area Office
P.O. Box 820
Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0
Tel: (705) 286-5223
Fax: (705) 286-4355
E-Mail: scott.bird@mnr.gov.on.ca

Any inquiries that you may have concerning the actual tower or the activities involved in its construction should be made to:

Brian Reurink
Senior Project Manager
479 Clarence St, C2
London, Ontario N6A 4L6
Tel: (519) 661-2613
Fax: (519) 660-0345
E-Mail: breurink@nexacor.ca

Comments must be received by the MNR before **January 12, 2004**. Please be aware that your comments may be forwarded to Bell Canada, unless you specifically request otherwise.



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Busy schedule ahead for Wilberforce Legion 2004

Views:

January 1: President's Levee at Branch 624 Wilberforce
January 17: Pat and Phyllis Gallen Trout Derby
January 24: Robbie Burns Dinner.

February 14: Valentines Dance

March 7: District F Zone Convention.
March 20: St. Patrick Day Dance

April is Legion Elections Month
April 23 is the start of District Convention for 3 days.

May 1: Zone Standing Elections; this will take place between the 13 Presidents.
May is Ladies Auxiliary Elections.

July 1: Canada Day and is held at the Wilberforce Outpost.
July 4: Bass Derby.
July 16, 17, 18: Country Good Times.

August 15: Annual Baseball Tournament.
August 30: Kinmount Fair, Colour Party
August 31: Coe Hill Warriors Day Parade, Colour Party.

September 10: Leadership and Planning Seminar.
September 19: Starts Legion Week at the United Church.
September 20: Bid Euchre.
September 21: Veterans Dinner.
September 22: Darts
September 24: Honors and Awards
September 25: Dance.

October 9 is the Turkey Shoot at Popcorn Pond.
October 24 starts our Poppy Campaign

November 7: the Sunday before Remembrance day a service is held at the United Church.
November 11: Remembrance Day.
December 4: the Wild Life Dinner
December 12: Colour Party for the Wilberforce Santa Clause Parade.

Views Weekly:

Monday: Bid Euchre
Wednesday: Darts
Thursday: Euchre
Saturday: Meat Draw.

Views Monthly:

First Tuesday of the Month: Legion Executive Meeting 7:00 P.M.

First Thursday of the Month: Ladies Auxiliary Meeting. 1:00 P.M.

Third Tuesday of the Month: General Membership Meeting 8:00 P.M.

Fourth Sunday of the Month: Monthly Cribbage Tournament 1:00 P.M.

From Our Branch to you, and from my family to yours, I would like to extend to you a very Safe and Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year. Enjoy.

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This property has everything on your wish list! Great location on 5 lake chain, very close to town and all amenities, easy year round access and charming home with everything on one floor! Great value at \$199,000.

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LIMITED REALTOR

The Gallery OF HOMES

Family Cottage or Retirement Living with deeded access to the Best sand beach on Wenona Lake just a stones throw away!

1125 sq. ft. bungalow, heated double oversized garage/workshop on Township Road. 10 mins. to Haliburton.

300 sq. ft. addition slated for large kitchen/dining room (not completed) steel roof & deck (2002). Thermal windows/doors. Heat line to drilled well. 200 amp hydro. Wood heat. Have morning coffee with the deer browsing the forest.

\$104,500.

LYNNE HODGINS,
Sales Representative
705-457-2220 (Res) 705-286-1575

Season's Greetings

The Staff of Century 21 Granite Realty Group Ltd. wishes to extend Seasons Greetings to all.

There's never been a better time to remember friends and express our appreciation for your business than during this special season of thankfulness.

Our very best wishes for peace, health and happiness in the year 2004.

Century 21

Granite Realty Group Inc.
Member Broker
Highland Street - Haliburton
Phone: 457-2128 fax: 457-2115
email: info@century21granite.com website: www.century21granite.com

Derrell & Kim ***	Wilfred **	Ruth *	Drew *	Lorri *
Lee **	Erin *	Andy & Susanne *	Cathy	Christine

Associate Broker **
Sales Reps. *
Brokers ***

community calendar

What's happening in the Highlands

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HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME

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"Providing a service that respects your wishes"

We make difficult decisions easier.

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CURRENT EVENTS

- **Dec. 24 to Jan. 5/04: Alzheimer Society Support Groups** Haliburton. Alzheimer Office in Haliburton. Office will be closed from Dec. 24th at noon until January 5th, 2004. For info. please contact Janet Bottum, Support Services Coordinator, at the Alzheimer Society Office in Haliburton 457-8335.
- **Dec. 24: (Christmas Eve) Family Service** at 7 p.m.; Communion Service at 9 p.m. Both services are held at the Minden United Church.
- **Dec. 24: (Christmas Eve) Eagle Lake Church** welcomes - Youth Voices age 7 and up are invited to sing at Christmas Eve Service. Call Laurel McCauley, 754-1658. Also adult voices for choir call Marie Wallace, 754-2648.
- **Dec. 28: Joint Service** on Sun., Dec. 28 at 9 a.m. at Zion United Church.
- **Dec. 28: 1st Annual Haliburton Men's Hockey Allstar Game**, Sunday, Dec. 28 at 6:00 p.m. Bring a donation or non-perishable food item towards 4C's of Haliburton.
- **Jan. 4: (Epiphany) Joint Service** at 11 a.m. at the Minden United Church.
- **Jan. 6: The Haliburton Highlands Handweavers and Spinners** invite you to their monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month. OHS Spinning Presentation - Spin, Weave, Dye, Knit, Design. Color and 1:30 p.m. on January 13/04 at the Haliburton Museum.
- **Jan. 7: Please join Home Support for Wheels to Meals** at Kei's Restaurant in Haliburton on Wednesday, January 7th. Lunch begins at 12 noon. Please call Stella McLean to make your reservations, 457-2982.
- **Jan. 8: Please join Home Support for Wheels to Meals at Elephant Lake Lodge** in Harcourt. Lunch begins at 1 p.m. on Friday, January 8th. Please call Ida to make your reservations, 457-2941.
- **Jan. 8: Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalists** monthly meeting will present local naturalist Jim Thompson who will talk and show slides on wild flowers of Haliburton County and Surrounding areas. Jan. 8, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in the Haliburton Museum. Refreshments available and all are welcome. Further info. 457-2487.
- **Jan. 15: General meeting of the Minden H.H.S. Auxiliary** at Hyland Crest, Jan. 15 at 1:00 p.m. Dwight Thomas will talk about the Paramedic Service. Question and Answer period will follow. Everybody welcome.

CURRENT EVENTS

- **Highlands Parent Child Mother Goose Program** - For parents and children, (birth to 2-1/2 years) learning rhymes, songs, and stories together. Wednesday Mornings January 7 to March 10, 2004, 10:0 - 11:00 a.m. Cardiff Elementary School. For more info and to register please call: Family Services: 457-5345; Ontario Early Years Centre: 457-2989 (formerly CHACE). Free!! Childcare for older siblings may be available on request.
- **Now until May 31/04: Adult Badminton:** Mondays, 7:45 p.m. to 9:45 p.m., Archie Stouffer Elementary School, Minden - September 15 to May 31/04. Join us for fun, fellowship and fitness. For more information phone Lois, 286-1765.
- **Climax Climbing Club** meets every Tuesday evening at Medeba Adventure Centre in West Guilford, Drop-in, indoor rock climbing from 6:30 - 8 p.m. for children 13 and under to climb with a parent or guardian and from 6:30 - 9:30 for teens and adults (parental permission required for children under 18 years). Beginners welcome - all equipment supplied. For more info. contact Greg and Sue at Family Services of Haliburton County, 457-5345.
- **Adult Women's Basketball** league plays every Monday night from 7:30 - 8:30 in the high school gym. New players are welcome. Cost \$3./night.
- **Family members and caregivers of someone with a mental illness** are invited to learn more about what your loved one is experiencing and skills to cope with your care giving challenges. Call 1-888-454-8875 or e-mail to fcn@nexicom.net to participate in a free twelve week Family to Family Education program. Sessions available in City of Kawartha Lakes, Peterborough, Haliburton and Northumberland

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editorial@haliburtonecho.on.ca., or brought in to the office. **Please submit events by the Thursday prior to the requested publication date.**

NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events in the Highlands.

Sparking Algonquin Park's past

Book chronicles park history

Eleanor (Mooney) Wright has once again dug into her treasure trove of memories to chronicle the history of Algonquin Park.

Trailblazers of Algonquin Park shares the stories of some of the fascinating people who were familiar faces at the provincial park in the 1930s and '40s. As retired park naturalist Ron Tozer says,

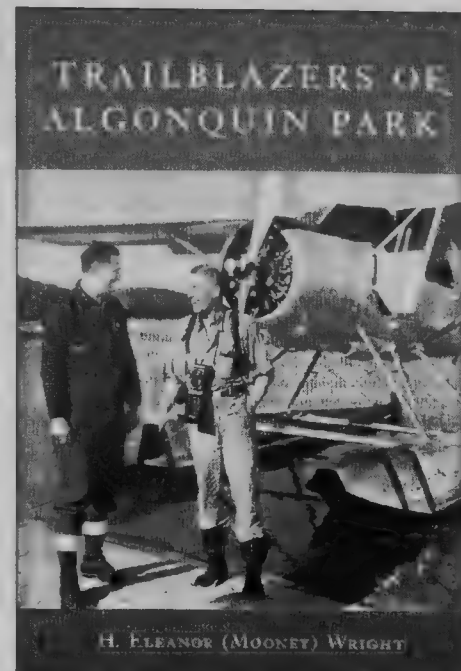
“

*Everyone interested in
Algonquin Park history will
enjoy this book*

RON TOZER

”

“She combines her vivid recollections of



growing up in the Park, where her father was a ranger, with many family and archival photographs to bring those earlier times to life.

“Her focus includes park rangers and guides, personalities of the Canoe and Joe Lake communities, and important park personages such as Superintendent Frank MacDougall and Dr. Wilfred Pocock. Everyone interested in Algonquin Park history will enjoy this book.”

Wright's previous book was *Joe Lake: Reminiscences of an Algonquin Park Ranger's Daughter*.

Both books are available at local bookstores.

Families gather for the holidays

Holiday company is beginning to come: Fay (Stamp) Campbell has her family from Calgary: Craig, Sherrie, Darcy and Lana. They will be joined for Christmas by Wade Stamp and Alison from Elmvale and Lynne Stamp and Dave from Orangeville. Darrell and Kim Stamp will host the whole family for the big dinner on the 25th.

Linda and Paul Hebert are expecting all of their children home: Dawn, Bobby, and Jon.

Ruth Bain's family gathers annually at the Centre for their Christmas celebration, all thirty-some at least counting children, grandchildren, and "great's".

Maggie and Jim Milne's family begins

to arrive now, with Susan and Henry van Ael and boys, Adam and Arthur from Fort Francis. The rest of the family will follow; Paul and Jodi with Amanda and Emily from Cambridge, Andrew Nehal and Elizabeth from Ottawa, and Bruce Crystal, Katie and Hannah from Trenton. Congratulations to Maggie on attaining certification in Sir Sandford Fleming's course in Visual Arts.

Elaine and George Schmid's Haliburton Soap Factory is making up gift packages now. You may order the kind (fragrance) and size you wish at 754-2966.

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper
754-2388

Highlands learning program seeks volunteers for various programs

On the wish list for 2004 the Haliburton Highlands Learning Program would be to find helpers to accomplish the following:

- A volunteer with camcorder to tape on Popcorn Day Session. this would allow students to see and hear how they sound and look to others.
- Calculator Workshop: Teach students the use of calculators for basic math, percentages, and fractions, including practice drills.
- A Scrabble, board game, and card club as a weekly or biweekly afternoon on a Tuesday or Thursday, manned by a volunteer.
- A team of volunteers to put together a job search preparation program (resume writing, job hunting techniques, telephone manner, filling out applications, practice job interviews, etc.)
- Other ideas are always welcome.

By adding variety to the learning, students and their tutors can laugh, learn and share.

If you can help, please call 457-3110.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!



THE ECHO Classifieds



When you place your ad in our classifieds - we put it on-line!

Check out <http://www.haliburtonecho.on.ca/classified/htm>



Phone: 705 457-1037 Fax: 705 457-3275 Deadline: Ads to appear in Tuesday's paper must be in before noon the preceding Wednesday.

010 FOR SALE

COMPLETE CHIMNEY AND WOODSTOVE SERVICE - Chimney sweeping, chimney repair, and replacement wood stove Service and Sales 457-5311. Your call will be returned the same day. Available 7 days a week. CA

GLOBAL VITAMINS - Your online vitamin store. Save up to 30% on your next purchase. We ship direct to your door. Website: www.shopwell.ca/cart.sw/globalvitamins. CA

IN STOCK

- Dock barrels
 - Steel and plastic culverts
 - Calcium Chloride
- Haliburton Lumber**
(705) 457-2510
e-mail:
hallumber@halinet.on.ca
Visit our web site:
<http://www.haliburtonlumber.com> CA

INCREDIBLE PRICES - Pine apple crates \$22.; unfinished pine crates starting at \$17.; Wicker baskets, many sizes starting at \$5.; Pine Mantle shelves starting at \$79.; Cap Racks, \$22.; Pine step stools \$23. Pine dry sinks starting at \$199. **Muskoka Furniture**, 195 Wellington St. Bracebridge, Ont. (705) 645-8183. CA

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Manufacturer of
EXTERIOR & INTERIOR SIDING
TRIMS & MOLDINGS
PINE & HEMLOCK TIMBERS
PINE & HARDWOOD FLOORING
CEDAR DECKING
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Hardwood Flooring

Beautiful prefinished Hardwood Flooring
Supplied and installed
(3/4 x 3-1/4 wide)
Rustic Red Birch 6.94 sq.ft.
Rustic Maple 5.85 sq.ft.
Rustic Oak 6.35 sq.ft.
Professionally installed.

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CUSTOM WOODWORKING
Serving the Highlands Since 1981
286-3082

Time To Change To Snow Tires?

Only \$9.95 Each
Installed &
Computerized Balance
HAPPY DAZE
AUTOMOTIVE
286-TIRE
Golf Course Road
Hwy 35, Across From Valu Mart

010 FOR SALE

ITEMS FOR SALE - 1999, 2 h.p. Honda, \$445.; 2001, 15 h.p. Johnson, \$1,695.; 2004, 10 h.p. Johnson, \$2,025. Call 457-1128. CA

ITEMS FOR SALE - Lucknow snowblower, tractor cab, used 12-15 times, like new; Horse cutter, refurbished, like new; too many other farm implements to mention. Call 286-2373. CA

LEAF TICKETS FOR SALE in green section. Can't use the following dates: Tues. Dec. 16th - vs. Tampa Bay; Tues. Jan. 6th - vs. Nashville; Thurs. Feb. 12th - vs. Blue Jackets; Tues. Feb. 17th - vs. Boston; Mon. Feb. 23rd - vs. Carolina; Tues. March 9th - vs. Florida. \$172. per pair. Call 457-3188 days and 457-3138 evenings. CA

MORTGAGES - Funds to lend at low rates. Call 286-6808. CA

MY CRAZY AUNT'S ATTIC Consignment Store

- New & used good quality clothing
 - Books, household items, furniture.
 - Groovy Girls, items for a buck or two and much, much, more.
 - You never know what you might find in the Attic!!!
- 455-9065**
We've moved - Now located across from the Rails End Gallery. CA

PINE FLOORING SPECIAL - 4" wide at \$1.25 sq. ft. Sizes up to 12". Call (705) 448-3394. CA

PROPANE FURNACE - 13,000 BTU, with 100 lb. tank \$400. Call 447-2208. CA

REGENCY PELLET STOVE - \$800. Call 457-4021. CA

RESIDENTIAL FUEL OIL TANKS - (ULC-S602) \$335. + taxes. Call 457-6750. CA

Save Money On Your Electric Bill. Rent or buy an oil fired hot water heater from **SID STAMP FUELS LTD.** Call now for full details (705) 286-1088. CA

010 FOR SALE

SNOW BLOWER FOR TRACTOR - 3 pt. hitch, inland model, 72" x 38" Auger opening, \$795. Call 754-3591. CA

UPPER CANADA CUSTOM WOODWORKING

- Hardwood floors
 - Staircases and Railings
 - Kitchen Cabinets
 - Interior Renovations
 - Custom Cabinetry
- Serving the Highlands since 1981
Call 286-3082 CA

WANTED:

New customers for Abrasive: belts, discs, sheets
Carbide: saw chain, drills, router bits, saws
Diamond: drills, saws
Portable saw mill bands.
For dependability, true quality cutting tools and friendly service with over 23 years of technical experience
Call:
BITS & BLADES at (416) 724-6529 ph./fax CA

020 WANTED

BUY & SELL - Antique furniture, china, glass, jewellery, toys, and older antique items in general. Call 457-2250. CA

HIGH SCHOOL REUNION - The Memorabilia Committee is looking for pictures and items which can be displayed in the Decade Rooms at the 50th Reunion in May of 2004. If you have things you would be willing to share, please contact Julie Hartin at 457-1980 or Julie.Hartin@tdsb.on.ca. CA

PINE CRAFTS PEOPLE! Large retail store will purchase your quality creations. Cash on delivery. Call John or Todd at 645-8183. CA

SPORTS CARD COLLECTORS - Looking for interested parties for monthly get together to discuss hobby. Call 286-2902 between 12:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. CA

WANTED TO BUY - Antiques and collectibles. Whole or partial estates. Call (613) 339-2350, Fax: (613) 339-1572 or e-mail: whitegen@bancom.net CA

040 COMPUTERS

NEW/USED COMPUTERS. Sales, service, upgrade, repairs. Web Hosting and Design. R & D Computers, 457-3698. CA

050 VEHICLES

1981 PICK UP 3500 - 1987 Dodge Caravan SE; 1990 GMC Cargo Van and 1 tar kettle. o.b.o. Call 457-1335 or 455-9301. CA

1992 S10 BLAZER 4 X 4 - 2 dr., 207 km, 4.3 vortex. Air, pw, pwl, new Michelin tires. Need body work \$1,200. Call 754-4899. CA

1995 FORD WINDSTAR - 6 cyl. auto., 7 psgr. New brakes, exhaust, rad. Ready to go. 246k Hwy. miles. \$2,500. certified. Call 286-4204. CA

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www.muskokachrysler.com
or call 1-800-465-8596 or
705-645-8763
For a complete used car inventory. CA

060 RV'S/ATV'S & SNOWMOBILES

1 - 14ft. HEAVY DUTY utility trailer with ramp and electric brakes. Holds two 4-wheelers, \$1,200. Call 457-9874. CA

1990 PHASER - \$1,500.; 1991 Phaser - \$1,500.; 1994 Polaris XLT - \$1,700.; 1995 Double bed U-Pull trailer - \$1,100. Call 457-3692. CA

1997 POLARIS INDY 500 - Thumb and hand warmers. Extra IO suspension. Good condition, \$2,750. o.b.o. Call 457-1055. CA

1998 YAMAHA VENTURE - 700 L/Q \$3,995.; 1998 Yamaha VMAX 600 XTL DB with cover studs and E/R \$3,995.; 1997 Ski-doo Formula 500 Twin L/Q with cover \$2,895. and many more used deals Call 489-2320, Wedgewood Marina. CA

2 SKI DOOS - 1993 and 1988, trailer and helmets, \$2,500. weekends 447-2245 weekdays, (905) 271-5671. CA

050 VEHICLES

GEORGE'S auto

2000 PONTIAC SUNFIRE GT

2 Door, Black, 5 Speed
PS, PB, Air, Cruise, Tilt, 80,000 kms
Serviced & Certified **\$8,795.**

1999 TOYOTA TERCEL

4 Dr., 5 Spd, PS, PB, Air
Serviced & Certified **\$6,795.**

1997 SUNFIRE

2 Door, Blue, 4 cyl., Auto
PS, PB, Air, Cruise, 125,000 kms
Serviced & Certified **\$6,195.**

1994 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4

Loaded, 6 Cyl.
Serviced & Certified **\$6,495.**

1991 CHRYSLER DYNASTY

4 Door, 6 Cyl., Air,
Power Windows
Serviced & Certified **\$3,995.**

Most Vehicles include A 6 MONTH 6,000 KM LUBRICO POWERTRAIN WARRANTY

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060 RV'S/ATV'S & SNOWMOBILES

2003 POLARIS 800 - reverse, elec. start, studded track, Fox suspension, low mileage. Washed, serviced and ready for the snow! \$6,995. Call 489-3554. CA

100 FARM EQUIPMENT

**LINDSAY USED
TRACTOR PARTS LTD.**
Cash for used farm tractors and dozers, regardless of condition. Box 803, Lindsay, 5 miles south of Hwy. 7 on Hwy. 35
(705) 324-8331. CA

120 PETS

DOES YOUR DOG NEED A WINTER TUNE-UP? Call Hound Dog Grooming. All breeds - by appointment, Haliburton 457-3335. CA

FREE HOUND DOG - 5 yrs. old Walker/Tick, all shots, good around children, quiet, includes dog house and some food. Call after 6 p.m. 457-2438. CA

140 REAL ESTATE

HALIBURTON LAKE - 124 ft. frontage on exceptional swimming and boating lake. Approx. 1 acre, including back lot \$85,000. Call 754-4491. CA

SHOP IN INDUSTRIAL PARK - Haliburton. Large lot 2,400 sq. ft. 2 bathrooms, 2 offices, electric/propane heat. Hoist, 3 bays. Call 457-1892 after 7 p.m. CA

150 COMMERCIAL SPACE

RETAIL OR OFFICE SPACE - ground floor in professional bldg. in village of Haliburton. 1100 square feet available now. Contact Brad 457-2022. CA

RETAIL SPACE FOR RENT - Highland St. Haliburton, 1 Unit, 925 sq. ft. suitable for office or retail, available October 1st; 1 Unit, 1400 sq. ft. suitable for retail, available October 7th. Details by fax or in person. Contact Michael Easton (B) 457-1574, (F) 457-1578. CA

050 VEHICLES

160 FOR RENT

FRESH, NEWLY RENOVATED - 2 bedroom apt. from \$599. 1st and last month rent required. In-town location. Ashley Hope Apts. Call Toll-free (1-866) 996-8226. CA

NEWLY RENOVATED ONE BEDROOM HOUSE - in Haliburton. Available Dec. 15/03, \$575. per month plus utilities. Non-smoker, no pets, references. First and last. Call 457-2754. CA

170 WANTED TO RENT

SINGLE PERSON, non-smoker and well behaved dog looking for 1 bdrm. apartment preferably in town, furnished or unfurnished. Available in January. Reply to Box "D" c/o The Haliburton County Echo, Box 360, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0. CA

200 HELP WANTED

ATTN: WORK FROM HOME, no recession here! Free info on line, full training. www.dollargenerator.com or (888) 204-8473. CA

LOCAL LUMBER YARD is accepting applications for a Drafting/Estimating position. Applications should have basic CAD Drafting skills and a working knowledge of building products. Please submit resumes to Emerson Lumber Ltd. c/o Cleve Roberts, P.O. Box 150, Haliburton, Ont. K0M 1S0. CA

WAITRESS/BARTENDER - P/T, apply in person with resumé. For appointment call 454-8298. Nobel Motel & Restaurant, Hwy. 35, Norland. CA

220 CHILD CARE

NATASHA BUNN'S Child Care. Call 457-5334. CA

240 CAREERS

REAL ESTATE SALES - Considering a new career? Ever wondered how to get started? Give us a call. You may qualify for reimbursement of all licensing fees. Already licensed? We offer 100% commissions with no desk fees or franchise fees. Call now Bowes & Cocks Ltd., Realtor (705) 457-2220 or 1-888-742-4234. CA

260 SERVICES

A-1 APPLIANCE REPAIR
at
DOUG'S APPLIANCE SERVICE
Call Doug for your Parts and Service needs.
457-3359
"Our service is guaranteed." CA



Specializing in Moving Household Contents
BIG or small at Competitive Rates
FREE ESTIMATES
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HALIBURTON



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TRI-COUNTY
DISTRIBUTORS
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Panasonic Technics
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Call 457-1037 to place an ad

PHOTO REPRINTS
AVAILABLE
If you see a photo you
would like a copy of
Call The Echo
457-1037

Deadline: Ads to appear in Tuesday's paper must be in before Noon the preceeding Wednesday. Call 457-1037 or Fax 457-3275

260 SERVICES

ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE AND BOOKKEEPING SERVICES - Call Sabine at the Irondale Business Centre 447-2313. CA

AL'S COTTAGE MAINTENANCE

HOME IMPROVEMENTS
Winter Maintenance
Cottage Start Up & Shutdown
Decks • Garages • Additions
Renovations • Roofing • Siding
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Pressure Washing
Also Available
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HIGHLAND APPLIANCES
Repairs to major appliances
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All work guaranteed
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BARRY ROBERTSON - Bookkeeping and Tax Service, P.O. Box 322, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0. (705) 457-2966. CA

CHRISTMAS PARTIES - Weddings and Birthdays. For all your catering needs. Call The In House Chef 457-9676. CA

EMMERSON RENT-ALL
serving the Haliburton area for over 15 years.
Authorized dealer for
Husqvarna chainsaws.
All types of
small engine repairs.
Over 250 items to rent.
Helium and gas supplies.
(705) 457-1550
www.emmersonlumber.com CA

INDOOR CARPENTRY WORK WANTED - Skilled tradesman able to do all aspects from windows and doors to flooring and finish, complete renovations to odds and ends. 457-5311. If there is no answer please wait and leave a message. Your call will be answered the same day. CA

JIM'S COTTAGE MAINTENANCE
• Cottage Servicing
• Roof Shoveling
• Painting and Staining
• Chimney Cleaning
• Renovations and Roofing
• Window Cleaning
• Lawn Care
Jim Cowling
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• Prompt Reliable Service
• Fully Insured
• Plowing of Cottage Roads Available.
Call Mike Askew
457-4545 or cell 457-0805 CA

ROXDEN MANAGEMENT SERVICES
• Short Term Management Projects
• Employee Recruiting Services
• Administrative Procedures Design and Implementation
• Accountant ready Bookkeeping in Quick Books Pro and Simply Accounting
Dennis Casey
(705) 457-1080
roxden@sympatico.ca CA

SECRETARY TO GO - Resumes, letters, mailing lists, etc. Call 457-3524. CA

260 SERVICES

SNOWMOBILE & ATV SERVICE CENTRE
Service & Repairs to all makes
North Shore Lawn & Garden
Minden
286-1944. CA

THE WINDOW GUY, fully insured, residential and commercial window and carpet cleaning, year round, serving Lindsay, Bobcaygeon, Haliburton and Minden. Call 457-9239. CA

270 HEALTH & FITNESS

STEP IT FITNESS - Aerobics
Classes. Noon Classes: 12:10 - 12:50. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday. Cardio strength, cardio flexibility. Evening Classes: 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday. cardio strength, cardio flexibility. Pilates: 12 week Session. Starting January 5th, 2004. Call Jane for information 457-1052, Ext. 205. Space Limited, Register early. CA

280 MOVING & STORAGE

INDOOR STORAGE - Vehicles, household, etc. Large or small spaces available, gated security property, accessible 7 days/week. Call 286-3030. CA

290 COMING EVENTS

NEW YEARS EVE DANCE
West Guilford Community Centre
December 31/03
9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
D.J. Jamie Bacon
Midnight Buffet
\$30/couple
For tickets see Pat Morrison at West Guilford Shopping Centre CA

Haliburton

LEGION BINGO

NO BINGO
WED DEC 24
WED DEC 31
WED JAN 7

SEE YOU ON WED JAN 14
HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY &
THE BEST IN THE NEW YEAR
The Bingo Committee

PHYSICAL JOURNEYS FITNESS

• Register Now!! •
Limited Registration
WINTER PROGRAMS
January 5th - March 30th.
Muscle Plus • Light Activity Fitness •
Fit 4 • Camp New S.A.Y. Stretch
and Yoga
2 locations:
Minden and Haliburton
Certified Fitness Trainer
Lori Kah 457-3224 CA

WILBERFORCE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
General Annual Meeting
Monday, January 5, 2004
Pot luck dinner - 6:00 p.m.
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Tory Hill Community Centre.
All are Welcome. CA

Put the
Classifieds
to work for you!

300 ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE CENTRE

Holiday Season Hours

Wed., Dec. 24
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.;
Thurs., Dec. 25 - Closed;
Fri., Dec. 26 - Closed;
Mon., Dec. 29
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.;
Tues., Dec. 30
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.;
Wed., Dec. 31
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.;
Thurs., Jan. 1 - Closed;
Fri., Jan. 2
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
For more information call
457-2020. CA

WEST GUILFORD RECREATION CENTRE

is available for:

Parties, Weddings, Banquets,
Anniversaries, Showers, Stages
Bingo every Mon. 7:15 p.m.
Euchre every Tues. 7:00 p.m.
Full kitchen, bar and hall facilities available at reasonable rates. Call Cheryl Cooper (705) 754-3210. CA

340 AUCTIONS/FLEA MARKETS

WHITE'S ANTIQUE AUCTION SALE

Sat., December 27 - 10 a.m.
Viewing - Fri. 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Sale to be held at the Faraday Community Centre.
From Bancroft take Hwy. 28S approx. 8 kms to Lower Faraday Road (beside Bow Lake Variety)
Sale to consist in its entirety of antiques and collectibles. Payment by cash, Visa, Interac, Mastercard, and cheque with 2 pcs. ID. Lunch available. All items sold "as is" condition. Auctioneer not responsible for lost or stolen items. Many more items too numerous to mention. **White's Auction Service, Oscar White - Auctioneer.** Phone: (613) 339-2350, Fax: (613) 339-1572, E-mail: whites.auction@sympatico.ca; Website: www.whitesauctions.ca www.auctionsfind.com/white CA

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400 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of **IRIS (SANDY) RUTH WHITE**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of Iris (Sandy) Ruth White, late of the Township of Minden, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 28th day of June, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice. **DATED** at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Executors for the Estate of Iris (Sandy) Ruth White. **CA**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of **JOHN EDWARD SCOTT**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of John Edward Scott, late of the Township of Lutterworth, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 2nd day of June, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice. **DATED** at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Administratrix for the Estate of John Edward Scott. **CA**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of **GWENDOLINE FLORENCE MUNSON**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of Gwendoline Florence Munson, late of the Township of Anson, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 6th day of August, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice. **DATED** at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Executors for the Estate of Gwendoline Florence Munson. **CA**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of **JANET MOWBRAY LEVITT**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of Janet Mowbray Levitt, late of the Township of Lutterworth, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 18th day of August, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice. **DATED** at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Executors for the Estate of Janet Mowbray Levitt. **CA**

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400 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of **THOMAS HENRY JONES**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of Thomas Henry Jones, late of the Township of Minden, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 23rd day of October, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice. **DATED** at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Executrix for the Estate of Thomas Henry Jones. **CA**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of **WILLIAM BASIL BONNER**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of William Basil Bonner, late of the Township of Anson, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 28th day of September, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice. **DATED** at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Administrator for the Estate of William Basil Bonner. **CA**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE CECIL BRENTON THEODORE WINTER

All creditors and others having claims against the Estate of **CECIL BRENTON THEODORE WINTER**, late of the Township of Dysart, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 2nd day of December, 2003, are required to file the particulars of such claim with the undersigned solicitor for the said Estate on or before the 6th day of January, 2004.

AND TAKE NOTICE that after the last date named, the assets of the said Estate will be distributed amongst the persons entitled hereto by the Estate Trustee of the Estate, having regard only to the claims of which the solicitor below shall have notice.

DATED at Haliburton, Ontario this 8th day of December, 2003. **RAYMOND G. SELBIE**, Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public, P.O. Box 186, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0. **CA**

440 THANK YOU

I WOULD LIKE to express my heartfelt "Thank You" to my great loving family. (Who can make me laugh even during distresses like this). Then to those related to me in the Faith who mean so much to Herb and me spiritually and in many other ways. To my wonderful clientele who are the reason I still want to work for a day. And then "The Doctors", esp. our long time family doctor Bob Heyes, nurses and staff who are so dedicated. To the smiling, friendly faces at Highland Wood Thank you, flowers say it all. (No wonder my mom is doing so well under all your care.) I owe it to all mentioned above and many more in our community to do my very best to get well, slow down and listen to the doctors. I already feel better. **Truly Sigrid Debes.** **CA**

440 THANK YOU

THANK YOU AND MERRY CHRISTMAS to the person who found my money in the ATM and returned it to the Bank. Such an act of kindness - the true spirit of Christmas.

The family of the late **NORMA BURK** wish to thank all their family and friends for their love and support through the loss of a very precious person. Thank you for all the cards, flowers, food, donations and caring phone calls. It was greatly appreciated. Thank you to the doctors and nurses at the Minden and Haliburton Hospitals for the care they gave our special person. (Wife, Mom and Nana). A special thank you to Kirsten and Barry for all their help. It is your continued love and support that will help us get through this tough time in our lives. Thank you from **Neil, Andrea and Lee, Andrew and Tracy, Abby and Chad, Aaron, Andi, Jason and Maddox.** God Bless. **CA**

The family of the late **RONALD LITTLE** would like to take this opportunity to thank the Extencicare Staff for their kindness and support during Dad's stay with them. Thank you to the many relatives and friends for their sympathy and kindness shown to us at Dad's passing. The flowers and donations in his memory will long be remembered and the generosity of those who provided food for our family during this time was greatly appreciated. Thank you to the Lochlin Church Ladies for providing a luncheon after the service and to Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home for their help and support.

450 IN MEMORIAM

BARNUM, OLIVER - In loving memory of our father and grandfather Oliver Barnum, December 22, 1973. His charming ways and smiling face are a pleasure to recall. He had a kindly word for each, And died beloved by all. Still missed, **Randy, Gloria, Courtney and Kelsey.**

BILLINGS - In loving memory of Glen and Philip. We will always remember the way you looked. The way you spoke and smiled. The little things you said and did are with us all the while. Always loved and ever remembered. Deeply missed by **Mom, brothers, sisters and your families.**

CRAFTCHICK, BOBBY (THE RIG) - In loving memory of our son Bobby (The Rig) Craftchick. In a quiet country graveyard and where gentle breezes blow lies the one we love so dearly. Whom we lost six years ago. Your resting place we visit. Place flowers there with care. But no one knows the heartache. As we turn and leave you there. Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by **Mom and Dad, brother Rick and wife Tracy, sister Cathy and husband Peter, Little brothers Ronnie and Jamie, Neice Cheyenne, Nephews, Petey and Owen. His many Aunts and Uncles and his many friends.**

JOHNSON, EDITH - In loving memory of my dear wife Edith who passed away December 25, 1994 at 7 p.m. after 57 years, 3 months, 10 days and 3 hours of a wonderful marriage. In our hearts your memory lingers. Sweetly tender, fond and true. There is not a day, dear Edith that we do not think of you. **John and Family.**

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450 IN MEMORIAM

JOHNSON, EDITH - In loving memory of my dear Mom who passed away Dec. 25, 1994. In remembering brings you closer. Then you never went away. For the thoughts of you are with us Each and every day. There will always be a heartache, And many a silent tear, But precious are the memories Of the days when you were here. Forever loved and missed, **Darlene.**

JOHNSON, EDITH - In memory of a very dear mother and grandmother who passed away December 25, 1994. Although you are not beside us You are never far away. For you are always in our hearts In every passing day. Forever loved and remembered, **Vicky, Rob, Justin and Alyssa.**

JOHNSON, EDITH - In memory of our Grama and Great-Grama who passed away December 25, 1994. So much time has passed but we feel the loss as much as we did nine years ago. Forever missed and loved; **Patti, Ryan, Cole, Kim, Rick, Angela and Tony.**

SANDERSON, JOAN AND WILBUR - In loving memory of parents and grandparents Joan who passed away on December 30, 1997 and Wilbur who passed away on January 16, 1985.

Your presence we miss, Your memory we treasure, Loving you always, Forgetting you never. Fondly remembered by her daughter **Judy (Wayne) and grandchildren Steve and Heather of Kincardine and son John (Linda) of Kitchen-er.**

460 OBITUARIES

AT REST THELMA ADEL (nee Pritchard) DEACON

Passed away peacefully at the **Hyland Crest Senior Citizens Home, Minden on Tuesday, December 16, 2003.**

In her 80th year.

Beloved wife of the late Bill Deacon, dear sister of Jean Morrison, Ross Pritchard and predeceased by Eva Sisson, Vivian Kemohan, Helen Hall, Nora Spence, and Russell Deacon. Fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. A Private Family Service will be held in the spring at Evergreen Cemetery, Haliburton. Memorial donations to the Alzheimer's Society would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden. **CA**

460 OBITUARIES

PATRICIA EILEEN (nee Leddy) LANG

Died of natural causes in her 87th year, at Haliburton, Ontario, on December 15, 2003.

Born in Saskatoon in 1917, Pat was the fourth of seven children who grew up in a big rambling house on Saskatchewan Crescent. Their home served as the unofficial hub of the city's social scene from the children's formative years to adulthood, when Pat left to marry Rudy Lang in 1950. She met Rudy sight unseen by teletype, communicating between her job at Trans-Canada Airlines in Saskatoon and his at Canadian Pacific Airlines in Regina. They enjoyed a long, happy life together until Rudy's passing in 2002. Pat and Rudy moved to Toronto in 1950 and started a new family. In the East for the first time, Pat dedicated herself to raising her son, Gerry and daughter, Kathleen. She was an avid bridge player and generously volunteered her time throughout her life serving the Red Cross, the Catholic Women's League and the Mississauga Hospital Auxiliary. With the exception of four years in Ottawa, Pat spent the rest of her life in the Toronto/Mississauga area, until her 12-year affliction with Alzheimer's Disease required her to move to the Extencicare facility in Haliburton in 2001, where she received the most perfect, loving care of the professionals and fellow residents. The family is profoundly grateful to Jane Rosenberg and her enlightened staff and to Dr. Hartwick for the good physical health and quirky vigour she enjoyed in her last years. Patricia Lang is survived by Kathleen Lang and Andrew Hackett, Gerry and Colleen Lang and grandchildren Geoffrey and Meghan Lang, and brothers Murray Leddy and Brian Leddy. Her feisty energy and wit touched everyone. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, Minden on Friday, January 9, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. Interment to take place in the spring at Ingoldsby Pioneer Cemetery. Reception to follow in the family centre at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd. Memorial donations to the Extencicare Proud Pioneers would be appreciated and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden (1-888) 588-5777. **CA**

460 OBITUARIES

REYNOLDS, ROBERT CHARLES BRANT - entered into rest peacefully at his home in Lindsay, Saturday, December 20th, 2003. Robert Reynolds, in his 56th year, was the beloved husband of Mary Jane Smith. Loving father of Bill, Robert, Bryan and his wife Jennifer and Patricia and her husband John Fisher. Dear grandfather of Allison, William Jr., Aaron and Brooklyn. Dear brother of James and his wife Wanda, William and his wife Blythe, Ben and his wife Elsie, Neil and his wife Sheila, Barb Barry, Joy and her husband Ken Hall, Gloria Sisson, Merrie and her husband Merrill Barry. Predeceased by his sister Frances Woods. Remembered by his many nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends at the Mackey Funeral Home, 33 Peel Street, Lindsay on Monday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Complete funeral service in the chapel on Tuesday, December 23rd at 11 a.m. Cremation to follow. If desired memorial donations to the Bethel Missionary Church Building Fund would be appreciated. **CA**

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Support Staff: Tammy Thompson, Brenda McKinlay, Paul Johnson, Karen Nimigon, Diane Dennie, Sue Marshall, Daniel Scott

With the Holiday Season upon us, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you who have made our year a special one.

Warm friendships and newly found relationships continue to make our business a pleasure. There is no time more fitting to say Thank You and to wish all a very Happy Holiday Season.

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